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GAZETTEER OF INDIA

HARYANA

ROHTAK



# Haryana District Gazetteers



## ROHTAK



(MISS) KIRAN PREM, IAS.

State Editor

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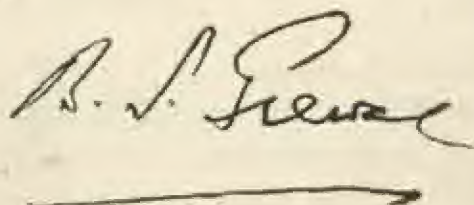


## FOREWORD

The District Gazetteer is a miniature encyclopaedia for the administrator, and a good guide to a stranger. It describes all important aspects and features of the district; historical, physical, social, economic and cultural. Officials and others desirous of acquainting themselves with the salient features of Rohtak would find a study of the Gazetteer rewarding.

The last edition of the Rohtak District Gazetteer was published in 1910. Since then momentous changes have occurred in all spheres. The entire fabric of life in the district has been improved. The present volume seeks to depict these changes and future trends, where possible. Several persons have helped in its compilation, but it was fortunate that Dr. K. C. Khanna, M.A., Ph.D., (London); F. R. Hist. S., M.R.A.A., was able to revise this volume before its publication.

I am obliged to Shri Bansi Lal, Chief Minister, Haryana and Shrimati Om Prabha Jain, Finance Minister for their kind interest in this publication, and for sparing the time to see the final manuscript.



(B. S. GREWAL),

ICS

Financial Commissioner, Revenue,  
Haryana.







## PREFACE

The Gazetteer of Rohtak district was first compiled after the census report of Sir Denzil Ibbetson in 1881. It was published in 1883-84, and was based on Mr. Fanshawe's Settlement Report of the district. The last edition of this Gazetteer was published in 1910.

During the intervening period, tremendous changes have occurred following Independence, the partition of the country, and the migration of people between India and Pakistan. This volume, first in the series of revised District Gazetteers of Haryana, reflects the changes that have occurred with the re-settlement of thousands of people from West Punjab in this area.

This gazetteer is different from the last one as it has been re-written, and is on the pattern prescribed by the District Gazetteers Unit of the Government of India. The chapters can be grouped into four categories, historical, social, political and administrative. As the partition of the country had a marked effect on this region, a separate chapter has been devoted to 'Rehabilitation'.

Many difficulties were faced in the execution of this work because no socio-economic survey or settlement operations have been undertaken in Rohtak for a very long time; the Provincial Annual Administration Reports were discontinued; the State Archives and other repositories of reference material were left behind at Lahore consequent upon Partition. Despite these limitations, an attempt has been made to collect all available information up to 1966 and wherever possible to bring it up to date.

I wish to express my thanks to all those scholars, libraries, private institutions and officials who helped me by supplying information on various points. I thank Dr. P. N. Chopra, Editor, District Gazetteers Unit, Ministry of Education for his valuable suggestions; Colonel Y. L. Khular, Director, North Western Circle, Survey of India, for his help in the preparation of maps; Dr. Buddha Prakash, of Kurukshetra University, and Mrs. U. E. Chaudhry, Senior Architect for their assistance; and Dr. K. C. Khanna, who has given his expert help in an unstinted measure. I am grateful for the guidance and advice given by Shri B. S. Grewal, I.C.S., Financial Commissioner, Revenue, Haryana.

Last but not least, the work that has been done by the Editors and their assistants merits commendation. Shri Sudarshan Kumar and Shri B. Raj Bajaj, Editors worked hard. They have been very useful in scrutinizing the preliminary drafts and in collecting necessary material.

The Controller of Printing and Stationery, Haryana, and the Government Press, Chandigarh, deserve my thanks for the speedy printing of this volume.

*Kiran Prem*

(KIRAN PREM).

IAS

State Editor

CHANDIGARH :

April, 1969.



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## CHAPTER I GENERAL

### Origin of the Name of the District

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The district derives its name from its headquarters town Rohtak which is said to be a corruption of Rohitasgarh, a name still applied to the ruined sites (also called Khokra Kot) of two older cities, one lying immediately north of the present town and the other about 3 miles to the east. Traditionally it is named after Raja Rohtas in whose day the city is said to have been built.<sup>1</sup> It is also claimed that the town derives its name from the *roherra* (*Tecoma undulate*) tree called *rohitak* in Sanskrit. It is said that before the town came into existence, it was the site of a forest of *rohitak* trees and hence its name Rohtak. Another version connects Rohtak with Rohitaka, which is mentioned in the *Mahabharata*<sup>2</sup> in connection with the campaign of Nakula, the Pandava warrior.

### Location, Boundaries, Area and Population

**Location and boundaries.**—The district lies in the south-east of Haryana State between 28° 19' and 29° 18' north latitude and 76° 13' and 77° 13' east longitude and is compact in shape. It is bounded by the Jind and Karnal districts on the north, the Gurgaon and Mahendragarh districts on the south, the Union Territory of Delhi and the Meerut district (Uttar Pradesh) on the east and the districts of Jind, Hissar and Mahendragarh on the west. The Yamuna flows along the eastern boundary of the district and separates it from Uttar Pradesh.

**Area.**—The district occupies an area of 2,332.2 sq. miles.<sup>3</sup> It ranks fourth in size among the seven districts of the State. Jhajjar is the largest tahsil in the district with an area of 813.5 sq. miles, followed by Gohana (553.2 sq. miles), Rohtak (517.1 sq. miles) and Sonapat, the smallest tahsil with an area of 448.4 sq. miles.

1. *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 1.

2. (*Sabhaparva* 32,4) and in the Buddhist text '*Alahamayuri*' (of S. Levi, *Journal Asiatique*, 1915).

3. This figure is based on information received from the Director of Land Records. The Surveyor General of India, however, puts the area of the district at 2,330 sq. miles.



**Population.**—According to 1961 Census, the district had 14,20,391 persons, 7,51,225 males and 6,69,166 females. It ranked third in the Haryana State.

### History of the District as an Administrative Unit

The areas comprising the Rohtak district underwent many changes, extending over hundreds of years before the administrative unit in its present form emerged.<sup>1</sup> Under the Mughal Emperor Akbar, when his minister Todar Mal divided North India into administrative circles, the areas of Rohtak (as a part of the subah of Delhi) fell within the *sarkars* of Delhi and Hissar Firuz. Lying close to the imperial city of Delhi, the tract which now comprises the Rohtak district, was often granted in military jagir by the Sultans and Mughal emperors to the nobles of the court. For this reason Rajput, Brahman, Afghan and Baluch chiefs have at different times enjoyed its revenues. On the death of Bahadur Shah I (1707—12), the successor of Aurangzeb, the Mughal empire began to decline rapidly. The area in which Rohtak lay frequently experienced a change of masters. The claims of the imperial grantees were contested sometimes by the Rajputs, Jats and Sikhs and often by the Marathas. George Thomas, the protege of a Maratha leader, Appa Kandi Rao, established his authority at Hansi and extended it to Maham in the Rohtak area for a number of years until Sindhia and various other regional forces combined to drive him away. Sindhia was however not destined to hold for long his conquests to the west of the Yamuna.

By the treaty of Surji Arjungaon, signed on December 30, 1803, the Rohtak area, along with the other possessions of Sindhia situated to the west of the Yamuna, passed to the British and came under the administration of the North-Western Provinces. The British had no intention at that time to hold large territories beyond the Yamuna. Accordingly a number of chiefs and leaders who had done good military service against the Marathas or had at least remained neutral, were settled in this tract to form a barrier of independent outposts between the British border and the Cis-Satluj Sikh estates as well as the trans-Satluj rising kingdom of Ranjit Singh. Accordingly, the Jhajjar territory was given to Nawab Nijabat Ali Khan and the old Baluch possessions at Bahadurgarh to his brother, Nawab Ismael

---

1. These changes are described in detail in Chapter on 'History'.



Khan. Gohana and Kharkhauda-Mandothi tahsils were given to Raja Bhag Singh of Jind and Bhai Lal Singh of Kaithal as life jagirs. The villages of Lohari, Patauda and Kheri in the south-east corner of Jhajjar tahsil were given as a separate jagir to Faiz Muhammad Khan, son of Nawab Nijabat Ali Khan. The estates of Hassangarh, Kirhau, Pyladgarh (Pahladpur) and Khurampur in Sampla area were also granted to him for life. The Rohtak-Beri and Maham tahsils forming the west of the present district were given to the Nawab of Dujana, who resigned the major portion of the gift in A.D. 1809 because it was beyond his power to manage it.

The formation of the present Rohtak district began when the gift was abandoned by the Dujana chief. The Gohana and Kharkhauda-Mandothi estates lapsed to the British Government on the deaths of Lal Singh in A.D. 1818 and Bhag Singh in 1820. When the Hissar district was created in the latter year, the Beri and Maham-Bhiwani tahsils were included in it, and the other portions of the present northern tahsils in Panipat. In 1824, the Rohtak district was formed as a separate unit consisting of Gohana, Kharkhauda-Mandothi, Rohtak-Beri and Maham-Bhiwani tahsils. The Bahadurgarh territory formed its eastern and Jhajjar its southern boundary. Until A.D. 1832, the whole area, including Rohtak, was under the Resident at Delhi, but when in that year it was brought under the same Regulations as the rest of North India, the Resident became Commissioner. The district was abolished in A.D. 1841; Gohana going to Panipat, and the rest of the tahsils to Delhi, but in the very next year it was created again. The two districts of Rohtak and Jhajjar together with the rest of the Delhi and Hissar divisions were detached from North-Western Provinces after 1857 and passed to the Punjab by the Government of India Notification No. 606 of the 13th April, 1858. The Rohtak district remained a part of the Hissar division until 1884.

After its transfer to the Punjab, the Rohtak district experienced several changes before assuming its final form. The Bahadurgarh estates were added to the Sampla tahsil, five detached villages to the east, going to Delhi. Jhajjar, including some areas of Narnaul, Kanaundh and Dadri was at first created as a new district but was abolished shortly afterwards in 1860 when large parts of it were assigned to the Phulkian chiefs as a reward for their loyal services. While the Jhajjar tahsil itself was added to Rohtak, several Badli villages were transferred either to Delhi or Gurgaon, and two detached

Jhajjar estates were given to the Raja of Jind. In the following year, the Maham tahsil was abolished and after making necessary territorial adjustments in favour of Hissar and Delhi the rest of the area was added to the Rohtak tahsil. All these changes were completed by the 1st July, 1861.<sup>1</sup>

On the abolition of the Hissar division in 1884 the Rohtak district was transferred to the Delhi division. It consisted of four tahsils, Rohtak, Gohana, Jhajjar and Sampla but in April 1910, the last-named tahsil was abolished for reasons of administrative economy, and its area was divided between the Rohtak and Jhajjar tahsils. The Sonapat tahsil, which had remained attached to the Delhi district since the year 1861, was added to the Rohtak district in September 1912, on the separation of Delhi territory from the Punjab.<sup>2</sup> The district was then attached to the Ambala division.

In 1948, Dujana State was merged in Jhajjar tahsil and a new sub-tahsil of Nahar was created.

#### Sub-Divisions, Tahsils and *Thanas*

At present the district is sub-divided into four tahsils namely Rohtak, Sonapat, Jhajjar and Gohana and a sub-tahsil of Nahar. To decentralise authority and ensure better supervision over public affairs, sub-divisions have been created at Rohtak, Sonapat, Jhajjar and Gohana. There are 14 *thanas* or police circles for the maintenance of law and order.<sup>3</sup>

### TOPOGRAPHY

Broadly speaking, the entire district is a part of the Punjab plain, but the area is not level. To one interested in micro-regional geography there appear marked variations in its surface configuration, making it possible to divide the district into several distinct localities. Over most of the district, the soil is fine loam of rich colour. The plain, much of which has a gradual slope to the south and east, is traversed by three broken lines of sandhills running roughly north-south. The easternmost of these sandhills is within a few miles of the Delhi territory, the central passes besides Rohtak, whereas the westernmost is along the border of Bhiwani tahsil of the

1. *Report on the Revised Land Revenue Settlement of the Rohtak District*, 1880, p. 44

2. *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, Vol. II, Pt. B, *Statistical Tables*, 1936, p. 3.

3. The list of *thanas* may be seen in Chapter on 'General Administration', p. 174.



Hissar district. In addition, there are some rocky hills also running north-south. The district may be roughly divided into three regions as under :

**The *Khadar*.—**The *Khadar* lies along the Yamuna and is a narrow flood plain ranging from 2 to 4 miles in width formed by the river along its course. There are very few settlements in it. Excepting long ridges of sand along the river, the *Khadar* is a fairly flat lowlying area. It is about 20 to 30 feet lower than the adjoining upland plain, and in its southern parts it is about 700 feet above sea-level. Its fine clayey loam left by the receding floods in the river is particularly suited to rice and sugarcane cultivation.

**The upland plain.**—It consists of the Sonapat and Rohtak tahsils west of the *Khadar*, the whole of the Gohana tahsil and north-eastern part of the Jhajjar tahsil. It is the most extensive of the three regions. As a whole, the region slopes towards the south as far as Jhajjar from an elevation of about 760 feet above sea-level in the northern part to 710 feet at Jhajjar. A closer examination of the spot levels indicates that within a local area of about 6 to 7 miles' radius, the town of Rohtak with an altitude of 720 feet is situated in the centre of a saucer at the lowest spot. Within this short distance to east and west the altitude increases to 731-32 feet. It is no wonder, therefore, that during heavy rains large quantities of water accumulate in and around Rohtak, create a serious drainage problem and cause heavy damage.

Apart from these minor variations in the surface of the upland plain, the long but low ridges lying north to south in the central parts form a distinctive feature of the Rohtak and Gohana tahsils. A few miles south-south-west of Rohtak there stands a low ridge nearly 3 miles in length, stretching in a north-south direction. It is broken in parts and dissected by short and seasonal streams. These ridges/hills 30 to 40 feet in height are remnants of the Aravallis. The ridges in Gohana tahsil represent perhaps the northernmost extension of the Aravallis in the Indian Union.

The upland plain, as a whole, is covered with old alluvium which, if properly irrigated, is highly productive.

**The sandy region.**—The southern and south-western part of the Jhajjar tahsil forms the third distinct region. Covered with many sand-dunes, it is different from the other two regions in that the land slopes from the south (with an elevation of about 800 feet) to Jhajjar

town in the north (with about 710 feet<sup>1</sup> above sea-level). Of all the areas of the Rohtak district, this region is infested with permanent sand-dunes to the largest extent in addition to a few small rocky hills in the south-west.

## RIVER SYSTEM AND WATER RESOURCES

### Main Rivers and Tributaries

Except for the Yamuna, which borders the district on the east, there is no perennial river in the district. To express any definite opinion relating to the past courses of the Yamuna and the subsequent changes in those courses, intensive investigation would be required. However, it has been suggested that the Yamuna used to flow in the course of the old Sarasvati and was a tributary of the Ghaggar which was itself a mighty independent river system with its trunk stream occupying the bed of the Hakra (the ancient Sarasvati). In the remote past this river system is said to have emptied into the Rann of Kutch. For reasons yet to be explained the Yamuna-Satluj divide received an uplift which caused the dismemberment of this river system, the Yamuna diverting to the east and the Satluj, which was also a tributary of the Ghaggar river system according to this view, to the west.<sup>2</sup>

The only stream entering the district is the Sahibi which flows from the south and enters the district in the south-eastern part of the Jhajjar tahsil only to lose itself and disappear within a few miles of the boundary.<sup>3</sup> The Sahibi has its origin in the Mewat hills which are the remnants of the Aravalli mountain system. A number of smaller streams, among which the Indori is well known, rising from the same hills, flow into the Sahibi contributing a little to its meagre current of water. Flowing initially along the western side of the hills in a north-easterly direction the Sahibi runs for about seventy miles before taking a northerly turn a few miles north of Kot Qasim and entering the Rewari tahsil (Gurgaon district) about 8 miles south-east of the town. Having traversed some 16 miles it then enters the south-eastern corner of the Jhajjar tahsil near Lohari village. Maintaining its northward flow it crosses through this corner

1. Gurdev Singh, *The Desiccation Problem of the Yamuna-Satluj Divide*, (The Geographer, Allahabad, May 1952).

2. Of the two streams rising in the Mewat hills, viz. the Sahibi and the Indori, an excellent account is given by H. C. Fanshawe in his *Report on the Revised Land Revenue Settlement of Rohtak District*, 1880.



of the Jhajjar tahsil, re-enters the north-western part of the Gurgaon district and finally re-enters the Jhajjar tahsil near Kutani. The following lines from Fanshawe's account of about one hundred years ago show clearly how the dams, extended cultivation and reduced rainfall have affected the water resources and drainage of this area :—

"On reaching Kutani, the stream (Sahibi Nadi) divides into two branches. One passes due north and joins the depression between Yakubpur and Fattchpur, the other turns west, and in Naglah again divides, the one branch passing up to the lowlands above Dadri, and the other continuing west to Zahidpur. After throwing an arm into the Batherah jhil, the latter turns north to Aurangpur, and flows through a lake there along the foot of the sand-hills to Silanah and the two Silanis. At this point it changes its course abruptly to the east, and passes through a gap in the sand-hills to the lake between Kote Kalal and Surah, and thence working south to the lakes of Kiloj and Dadri, (where it is joined by the branch going north from Naglah) falls into the expanse between Sondhi, Yakubpur and Fattchpur, to which the branch from Kutani flows direct. From here the re-united stream turns sharply to the north again, and passing through a second sand ridge, between Fattchpur and Niwanah, enters Badli through the masonry sluices of the often threatened but still existing band of Nawab Feiz Muhammad Khan. Thence it passes into the Delhi district by two arms, the best defined going through Dewarkhanah and Lohat to Dhindasa, and the other by a huge shallow sweep up the west side of Badli and under the town. When the floods come down in full volume, all the depressions along their course fill from side to side; the water generally rises in a few days and passes off in two or three weeks. The lakes above Aurangpur and below Kote Kalal and Surah never dry, and even the others usually retain some water in the lowest parts of their beds all the year round. The Najafgarh jhil lies five miles distant from the Jhajjar border, and throws out from the centre and northern and two shallow depressions, fourteen miles and eight miles long, back to Bupaniah and Bahadurgarh; while the lowlying lands of Jhajjar are thus irrigated by the streams as they come down to the jhil, those of Sampla are affected by floods passing up from the over-filled jhil itself. The view of the lakes with



their waters rendered intensely blue by the surrounding sand-hills, fringed with luxuriant crops of wheat and sugarcane, and covered with flocks of ducks, geese and snow-white pelicans, is very beautiful in the spring."<sup>1</sup>

Experience shows that due to its long passage through a dry and sandy country, the Sahibi can only be in spate in years of exceptionally heavy rainfall. Ordinarily, water flows along the bed of the Sahibi only in the rainy season, it being dry for the rest of the year.<sup>2</sup>

### Natural Drainage

Till about the year 1878, the obstructions caused by the Old Rohtak Canal in the natural drainage of the country produced water logging and consequently malaria. The re-alignment of the canal greatly improved the natural drainage of the area.<sup>3</sup> During rains the water, instead of flowing into some river, follows a course directed towards inland depressions in eastern and southern parts of the district and these areas get flooded.

### Lakes and Ponds

While the landscape of the upland plain is throughout dotted with ponds, each village having at least one, there is only one big lake, near Surah (Jhajjar tahsil), which can boast of being seldom dry.

### Underground Water Resources

The depth of water table is the lowest in the *Khadar* area along the Yamuna where it is below 10 feet. It increases to 40–60 feet or even more in the Jhajjar tahsil and in the western and south-western parts of the Rohtak tahsil. The ground water conditions indicate that the district faces the problems of occurrence of brackish water, water-logging in eastern parts, and deep water levels in south-western parts.<sup>4</sup>

1. *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 3.

2. The Sahibi stream spills over its banks when the rainfall is heavy and the floods cause damage to standing *khurif* crops in Jhajjar tahsil and delays the sowing of *rabi*. The stream sweetens and replenishes the water of wells along its course generally within one mile on either side of it. The stream, therefore, plays a vital role in the maintenance of sub-soil water table and sweetening water.

3. *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 5.

4. For more details see pp. 61–62, 66–67 of Chapter on 'Agriculture and Irrigation'.

## GEOLOGY

With the exception of a few small exposures of Alwar quartzite belonging to the Delhi system, the district is almost entirely covered by alluvial deposits.

## Mineral Wealth

**Salt.**—There are several villages south-west of Delhi situated partly in the Gurgaon and partly in the Rohtak district, where the manufacture of salt by the solar evaporation of brine raised from wells, has been carried out for a long time. The production of salt was stopped in 1923-24 due to levy of punitive tax and inferior quality of salt as compared to Sambhar salt. The saline area, which is over 52 sq. kms. lies in the Sultanpur *mahal*, a cluster of villages on Rohtak-Gurgaon border. The brine in this area seems inexhaustible, as some of the works have apparently been in operation for the last 200 years and no depletion has been observed. The quality of brine varies considerably in different wells and in the same well in different seasons. During the rainy season, and for a month or so thereafter, the water is largely brackish in wells which in warm weather yield excellent brine. The proportion of salt in the water varies from about 0.16 per cent, the lowest workable rate, to as high, in the hot weather, as 3 per cent. The average depth of water below the surface, in March, varies from 2.13 metres to 5.80 metres.

**Saltpetre.**—Rohtak is an important saltpetre producing district. The saltpetre appears as efflorescence on the surface during the summer season. Most of it is manufactured in the villages of the Gohana and Sonapat tahsils.

**Kankar.**—*Kankar* (lime) occurs at a number of places, the important ones being Kaliawas and Birohar in the Jhajjar tahsil.

## Seismicity

**General.**—The history of past earthquakes experienced in and around the Rohtak district shows that Rohtak is situated in a region liable to earthquakes of moderate intensity. Some of the important earthquakes which affected the region occurred on July 15, 1720, September 18, 1903 and April 4, 1905.<sup>1</sup> No major earthquake which had its epicentre near about Rohtak, has been located in the

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1. The Kangra earthquake of April 4, 1905, affected the Rohtak district. The affected areas were Beri, Gohana, Jhajjar and Kalansur.



recent past. The place has, however, been affected by earthquakes having their epicentres in and around the Himalayan Boundary Fault Zone and by deep focus earthquakes occurring in the Hindu Kush region. Epicentres of minor earthquakes have, at times, been located within 100 miles of Delhi, some of which, it is believed, have been experienced in Rohtak also.

**Ground acceleration.**—It is inferred from the available data that the maximum intensity at Rohtak due to any earthquake never exceeded VII on Modified Mercalli Scale. The intensity VII on MM Scale corresponds to a horizontal ground acceleration range of 18-140 cms/sec. in any one direction. The wide range of acceleration figures is due to the fact that the ground acceleration at a place is largely dependent on the nature of foundation existing at the site, the acceleration being greater where the foundation is of loose boulders, alluvium or filled up ground and much less where there is granite or hard rock foundation. In the Rohtak district, the former is the case.<sup>1</sup>

## FLORA

There has been no systematic survey and there is nothing particular about the flora of the district. Various kinds of trees and shrubs grow in different localities. The scope of growing different trees, especially those requiring much watering, has been restricted due to shortage of canal water, brackishness of well water, and water-logging. However, efforts to improve irrigation facilities and to provide encouragement to horticulturists have led to useful results. Three garden colonies at Panchi Gujran in the Sonapat tahsil, Kharkhauda and Lahli in the Rohtak tahsil have been established to grow more fruit. The garden colonies at Panchi Gujran and Lahli, though deficient in water, are still doing well; not so the one at Kharkhauda which suffers from water-logging.

In common with the neighbouring districts of the plains, Rohtak also possesses rich alluvial soil, the surface soil being loamy and slightly on the alkaline side. Sandy tracts occur in some parts, particularly in the Jhajjar tahsil. On account of the pressure of population and extensive cultivation, very little has been left of the natural forests. These, where present, are of the open evergreen scrub or

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1. According to information received from the Head of Geology Department, Panjab University, Chandigarh.



thorn type, consisting mostly of the following trees and shrubs<sup>1</sup> :—*Salvadora oleoides* (Pilu, Jal), *Prosopis cineraria* (Jand, Janti, Chonkra), *Capparis decidua* (Karil, Kair, Karir, Delo), *Balanites aegyptiaca* (Hinga, Tingota), *Capparis sepiaria* (Hins, Heens), etc. These trees and shrubs are widely spaced, and the larger shrubs associate themselves in close clumps which offer shelter and support to climbers and twiners.

The common climbers seen here are ; *Coccinea cordifolia* (Kutra, Kundru, Kanduri), *Maerua arenaris*, *Pergularia daemia* (Aakian), *Rhynchosia minima* and others.

During the rainy season, a number of herbs appear on the ground giving it a green appearance. Among these herbs may be recognised species of *Cleome viscosa* (Hulhul), *Commelina* (Kanteri, Kankawwa, Kana), *Corchorus* (Khurand, Bohphali, Kowwa-toral, Kag-roti, Chonch, Kharenti), *Digera arvensis* (Kundra, Tandla), *Portulaca* (Kulfa), *Tephrosia* (Jhohru, Pawad), *Trianthema* (Santhi), *Tribulus alutus* (Bhankdi), *Triumfetta tomentosa* (Kasni), etc. *Adhatoda vasica* (Basuti) often forms gregarious patches and may also be found in association with *Capparis decidua* in some places.

In waste lands, *Xanthium strumarium* (Bangra, Bichhu, Kutra, Bhurat) is commonly seen. This is an introduced plant which is rapidly spreading and is troublesome on account of its fruits which have hooked bristles. Other plants found in waste lands are *Calotropis procera* (Ak, Madar), the exotic weeds, *Croton bonplandianum* (Kala Bhangra) and *Argemone mexicana* (Satyanasi, Kateli, Kandlari) and a thistle, *Cnicus arvensis* (Katchi, Rissa, Katala, Rassa).

Some of the characteristic plants of the sandy tracts and dune hillocks are, *Aerva pseudotomentosa* (Dholi mundi, Dholphullo, Kamheda), *Alhagi camelorum* (Jawasa, Bharbharra), *Arnebia hispidissima* (Rattanjar), *Chrozophora prostrata*, *Crotalaria burhia* (Meini), *Farsetia hamiltonii* (Farid-buti), *Leptadenia spartium* (Khimp, Khip), *Peganum harmala* (Harmal), *Sericostoma pauciflorum*, *Zizyphus nummularia* (Kokasber, Malha, Jhad, Beri), and others. Many of these are used medicinally.

Of the most characteristic trees of the drier parts of the district is *Tamarix articulata*, locally known as *Furask*. This tree grows readily from cuttings, does not need much water, and is, therefore, planted

1. Local names have been given wherever possible along with botanical names.

along roadsides, canal banks and around cultivated fields. Near villages and along avenues, several other species of trees are found. The commonest avenue tree is *Dalbergia sissoo* (*Shisham*) which is well-known for its timber. Other trees planted along roadsides and canal banks and elsewhere in the district are *Acacia nilotica* (*Bobul*, *Kikar*), *A. leucophloea* (*Reru*), *A. senegal* (which yields gum-arabic) *Albizia lebbek* (*Siris*), *Azadirachta indica* (*Nim*), *Butea monosperma* (*Dhak*), *Cassia fistula* (*Amaltas*), *Cordia dichotoma* (*Lasura*), *Ficus religiosa* (*Peepal*) and *Ficus bengalensis* (*Banyan* or *Bar*), *Morus alba* (*Mulberry* or *Saktoot*), *Terminalla arjuna* (*Jumela*) and others.

Other trees occasionally met with are *Bauhinia variegata* (*Kachnar*), *Crateva nurvala* (*Barna*), *Moringa oleifera* (*Sohanjna*), *Mitrogyna parvifolia* (*Kalm*), *Salmalia malabarica* (*Semul* or *Symbal*), *Tecomella undulata* (*Lahura*), etc. *Opuntia dillenii* (*Chhittar Thohar* or *Nagphani*), the common prickly cactus, may be seen in waste lands and along hedges.

Among the fruit trees, *Mangifera indica* (*Mango* or *Aam*) and *Syzygium cumini* (*Jamun*) are the most important.

In villages and around the village ponds, people have planted trees like banyan or bar (*Ficus bengalensis*), peepal, nim and kalndu (*Gymnosporia royleana*) to provide shade for the cattle. Fortunately, the villagers, particularly in dry areas, plant such trees near villages on religious ground. The person who plants a *tirbaini* (trees comprising peepal, banyan and nim at the same place) hopes to achieve salvation. This motivation for planting shady trees is responsible for their existence even in sandy and dry tracts. Besides shade, these trees provide food for cattle in the shape of fodder during emergencies, and fruits to the birds.

Located in an important agricultural division, the district has extensive areas under cultivation. The important crops are sugarcane, wheat, millets, gram, cotton, oil-seeds and pulses. Paddy, maize and barley are also grown to a small extent. Among the weeds of these cultivated fields, some of which are seasonal may be mentioned : *Aeschynomene indica* (*Dadain*), *Artemisia scoparia* (*Dona Jhan*), *Asphodelus tenuifolius* (*Bokar*, *Piyazi*), *Celosia argentea* (*Sarwali*), *Cleome viscosa* (*Hudhul*), *Convolvulus arvensis* (*Hiranpaddi*), *Corchorus* Spp., *Crotalaria medicaginea* (*Gulabi*), *Digera muricata* (*Kundla*, *Tartara*), *Euphorbia dracunculoides* (*Kangi*), *E. Hirta* (*Dudhi*), *Leucas cephalotes*



(Maldoda), *Stellaria media* (Safed phul-kee, Buch bucha) and various other species.

The aquatic flora of the district includes such flowering plants as *Aponogeton ceratophyllum* and species of *Hydrilla*, *Nymphaea* (Chhota Kamal), *Potamogeton*, *Trapa bispinosa* (Singhara), *Utricularia* and others, and also species of *Marsilea* and *Azolla* of the *Pteridophyta* group.

Many of the herbs and shrubs found in the district are known to possess medicinal properties. Some of the more important ones widely used for medicinal properties are *Boerhaavia diffusa* (Punarnava), *Argemone mexicana* (Satyanasi), *Peganum harmala* (Harmal), *Solanum surattense* (Kandhari), *Vitex negundo* (Nirgundi), *Withania somnifera* (Ashgand) and *Zizyphus* Spp.

There are many grasses in the district. The biggest and the most conspicuous is *Saccharum Munja* (Munj, Sarkana). This grass is put to various uses and yields fibre from which strong ropes are made. A very good fodder grass is *Cynodon dactylon* (Dub). Other grasses commonly seen in the district are *Eragrostis*, *Vetiveria zizanoides* (Khas-Khar), *Dactyloctenium aegyptium* (Makhra, Madana), *Cenchrus ciliaris*, *Echinochloa colona*, *Heteropogon contortus*, *Polypogon* Sp., etc.

The following description of the grasses of the district with their relevance to human existence is worth reading :—

"The grasses of the district are numerous. Most conspicuous of all is the *sar* (*saccharum munja*) whose uses are too well known to need mention. This is abundant on the sand-hills and also grows on the river sand thrown out by excavation of the canal channels. *Dub* (*cynodon dactylon*) luxuriates on the well runnels and canal banks and in seasons of good rainfall covers every field. 'Aur ghas jal jawegi dub rahagi khub; though all other grass be burned up, the *dub* will remain fresh.' It is a great pity the people do not stack it for their cattle. The *mota* or *motiya* (*cyperus rotundus*) is a troublesome weed especially in irrigated land, but its bulbous root is edible and *chamars* may be seen pulverising the ground so as to extract it whole. The *dab* (*eragrostis cynosuroides*) is often a troublesome weed, but when young it is readily grazed and when times are bad it is stored and chopped up for fodder. The proverb 'Marega, kya dab charega, though an animal should die,



will he eat *dal* ?—is too pessimistic ; brushes and bed rope are also made from it ..... *Kans* (*saccharum spontaneum*) is less of a nuisance than it is painted, and is chopped up for fodder. Occasionally its decrease is even made cause for complaint. There is a proverb too, '*ghore ko kans, admi ko bans*; kans for a horse, and a staff for man'.

"The *gandra*, *pani* or *jhund* (*anatherum muricatum*), which is found in ponds and depressions, is very valuable for thatching and for brooms, while the *makrah* (*quaere* ?) with a blossom like a wood louse and the *della* (*quaere*?) both give good grazing. The *sanwak* or *samak* (*Panicum colonum*) bears a small *bajra*-like grain and is collected by the poorer classes in times of famine while the *Bhurat* (*cenchrum echinatum*), which gives a poor grain for man as well as fodder for cattle, will be identified by every tent-dweller by the persistence with which its burrs cling to his shirt and towel."<sup>1</sup>

*Adhatoda vasica* (*Bansa*) and *Vitex negunda* (*Sambhahi*) are used as roofing material for mud houses. The grasses like *Dub* and *Kans* are used to feed cattle. Other grasses and herbs like *Sanwak*, *Dub*, *Della* and *Bathu* (*Chenopodium album*) are harmful for crops but provide good fodder for cattle.

## FAUNA

### Animals

Early in the 20th century, the district was well known for its large herds of antelope (black buck-*hiran*) and gazelle (*chinkara*), the latter being found chiefly in the southern part and the former in the northern. As no Hindu in Rohtak would kill them and gun licenses were rare, the herds in some parts were very numerous, and fine heads were procurable. The Jat's instinctive attitude to them was that God had made them too; when He gave good crops, there was enough for all and when famine came they too had to go hungry. Nevertheless, so destructive were they to the crops that he was often glad to see them shot, and never interfered with the sportsman. The position has changed since then and antelopes are almost on the verge of extinction. *Chinkara* is occasionally found

1. *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 7.

in the areas of Sunarian Ki Thali, Kakrana, Pilana, Nigana and Bhainsru in the Rohtak tahsil; Salhawas, Dulina and Jahangirpur in the Jhajjar tahsil; Kakana, Sargthal, Bir Gohana and Baroda in the Gohana tahsil, and Murthal, Dobeta as well as along the Yamuna in the Sonapat tahsil.

Fox, jackal and squirrel are commonly met with throughout the district. Wild cat is also not rare. Wolf, hyena and wild pig are now becoming rare. *Nilgai* (blue bull) was common, especially in the Chhuchhakwas Bir and Matanhel jungle, but in the famine of 1900 it almost disappeared; however, a good many are now met with in almost every tahsil. In spite of their being very harmful to the crops, the Jats do not kill them.

Monkeys are also found in the district. They ravage the sugarcane fields whenever they get a chance, prevent young trees from growing, and often threaten women and children carrying food to the fields. The people are unwilling, on religious grounds, to kill them.

Scorpions are not very common but snakes are. Even the poisonous varieties of snakes, such as the cobra, and karait are found. Besides, the common lizards, big and small, chameleons are plentiful and the varanus or biscobra is also found.

#### Birds

E. Joseph, Deputy Commissioner and Settlement Officer, Rohtak, wrote in 1910 :

"Of game birds, the black partridge, snipe, jack snipe, duck, geese, teal, and cranes are common in suitable localities. The grey partridge, common sand grouse and quail may be found all over the district, though quail are nowhere plentiful. The imperial sand grouse is not uncommon and bustard are said to be occasionally found.<sup>1</sup> Peafowl run wild everywhere, but the people, even the Muhammadan Rajputs, object to their being shot. The people believe that when the peacock dancing in his pride catches sight of his ungainly legs he sheds tears of mortification. The sympathetic hen comes to drink his tears, and from this draught come the eggs she lays. Birds of all kinds are extraordinarily common in the district and many of them are of singularly brilliant plumage. The Jat hardly knows one from another, but he often hangs a pot of water

1. A houbara was shot near Rohtak in December 1910.



outside his house for them and he will fill the scoop at the rim of the well with water before he ceases work for the night in case any animal should come to quench its thirst and find no water there."

**Ducks and geese.**—Generally, three kinds of ducks are met with in the district, viz. divers, dabblers and mergansers with saw-like bills. Besides, there are other types which visit the jhils and ponds in winter from distant lands beyond the Himalayas. Of these, mention may be made of Brahmany Duck or Ruddy Sheldrake (*Chakwa*), common teal, gargeny teal (vegetarian), pintail, gadwall, widgeon, shoveller, pochard, mallard, etc.

The geese found in the district are also of three types, viz. grey lag, bar-headed and large white-fronted. Ducks and geese are found in the jhils and ponds at Kiloi, Dhamar, Ladhod and Naya Bas in the Rohtak tahsil; Raiya Dawla, Bakra and Dhurana in the Jhajjar tahsil; Kheri Sargthal, Rana Kheri, Bhainswan, Mundiana and Bali in the Gohana tahsil and Dobeta, Sersa, Khubru, Barwasni and Murthal in the Sonapat tahsil.

**Snipes, cranes and coots.**—These are also found near lakes and ponds along with ducks and geese.

**Partridges.**—Black and grey partridges are generally found throughout the district.

**Green pigeons.**—These are greenish-yellow, olive-green and ashy-green with black patches on the shoulders and yellow bars on the blackish wings. They are found throughout the district, on banyan, peepal, *beri* or fig trees.

**Blue rock pigeon.**—This bird is commonly found all over the district.

**Pea fowl.**—This beautiful bird is also found all over the district.

**Common sand-grouse.**—This is found in open, barren plains, stubble fields and land away from water. It comes to drink water regularly in the morning and at sunset. It is found at Kalanaur, Chamari, Tatoli, Makroli, Bhainsru and Sunari in the Rohtak tahsil; Kosli, Salhawas and Nahar in the Jhajjar tahsil; Kohia, Banwasa and Bir Gohana in the Gohana tahsil, and Gansaur in the Sonapat tahsil.

**Other birds.**—Apart from the game birds described above, there are numerous other common birds in the district such as the sparrow,



crow, kite, vulture, babbler, parrot, kingfisher, hornbill, egret, heron, stork, tit, bulbul, cuckoo, *baya* and the dove.

Due to reclamation of jungles and *banjar* lands, wild animals which used to abound in the district are fast disappearing. At present, there is no wild life sanctuary in the district. Thus, finding no refuge and shelter, animals and birds have migrated and are still migrating to other places.

## CLIMATE

The climate of the district is dry with an intensely hot summer and a cold winter. Only during the three monsoon months of July, August and September does moist air of oceanic origin penetrate into this district to make the weather comparatively milder.

The year may be divided into four seasons. The cold season starts by late November and extends till about the middle of March. This is followed by the hot season which continues till about the end of June when the south-west monsoon arrives. July to September is the south-west monsoon season. The post-monsoon months, October and November, constitute a transition period from the monsoon to winter conditions.

### Temperature and Humidity

**Temperature.**—There is no meteorological observatory in the district. The description that follows is based on the records of observatories located in the neighbouring districts. The cold season starts towards the later half of November when both day and night temperatures fall rapidly with the advance of the season. January is the coldest month when the mean daily maximum temperature is about  $21^{\circ}$  C ( $69.8^{\circ}$  F) and the mean daily minimum about  $7^{\circ}$  C ( $44.6^{\circ}$  F). In the winter months, during cold waves which affect the district in the wake of western disturbances passing across North India, minimum temperature may sometimes go down to the freezing point of water and frosts may occur. From about the middle of March, temperatures begin to rise rapidly. May and June are the hottest months. From April, the hot westerly winds locally known as *luh* blow and the heat is intense. In May and June, the maximum temperature may sometimes reach about  $47^{\circ}$  C ( $116.6^{\circ}$  F). With the advance of the south-west monsoon into the district towards the end of June, day temperatures drop appreciably while night temperatures continue to be as high as

in the summer. Even during the brief south-west monsoon, the weather is close, damp and uncomfortable in between the spells of rain on account of the increased moisture in the air. In October, the day temperatures are as high as during the monsoon months but the nights are cooler.

**Humidity:**—The air is dry during the greater part of the year. In the monsoon months, the humidity is high. April and May are usually the driest months, humidity in the afternoons being less than 20 per cent.

### Rainfall

The records of rainfall in the district are available for seven stations for periods ranging from 33 to 97 years. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the district as a whole are given in Tables I and II of Appendix. The average annual rainfall in the district is 457.6 mm. (18.01"). The rainfall generally increases from the south-west to the north-east. The rainfall in the south-west monsoon season which reaches its peak in the month of July constitutes about 74 per cent of the annual rainfall. The annual rainfall in the district varies considerably. In the fifty-year period from 1901 to 1950, the highest annual rainfall was in 1933 when it amounted to 199 per cent of the normal. In the two consecutive years, 1938 and 1939, the annual rainfall in the district was the lowest in the fifty-year period and was only 38 per cent of the normal in each of the two years. In the same fifty-year period, the rainfall was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 16 years. Considering the district as a whole, there were two periods of such low rainfall 1938—41 and 1943-44. At some stations in the district consecutive two, three, four and five years with rainfall less than 80 per cent of the normal occurred. Even eight consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred at Beri during the period 1937—44. It will be seen from Table I of Appendix that the annual rainfall was between 360 and 600 mm. (11.81" and 23.62") in 33 years out of fifty.

On an average there are 24 rainy days (i.e. days with rainfall of 2.5 mm. or more) in a year in the district. This number varies from 16 at Salhawas to 29 at Rohtak and Sonapat.

The heaviest rainfall recorded in 24 hours at any station in the district was 484.1 mm. (19.06") at Rohtak on September 19, 1933, when streets were traversable only by boats.



**Cloudiness.**—During the monsoon season, particularly in July and August, the skies are heavily clouded. During the rest of the year, the skies are generally clear or lightly clouded. In January, February and early March, the skies are sometimes overcast with the passage of western disturbances.

**Winds.**—Winds are generally light during the post-monsoon and winter months. They strengthen a little during the summer and monsoon months. Winds are predominantly easterly or south-easterly in the monsoon season and mostly westerly or north-westerly in the other seasons.

**Special weather phenomena.**—April to June is the period with the highest incidence of thunderstorms and duststorms. Violent squalls (*amihis*) often accompany such storms. While some of the thunderstorms are dry, others are accompanied by heavy rain and occasionally hail. Rain during the monsoon months is often accompanied by thunder. Fogs, sometimes dense, appear in the winter months and thunderstorms also occur in association with western disturbances.



## CHAPTER II

## HISTORY

### THE ANCIENT PERIOD

The Rohtak district which forms a part of Haryana is strategically situated in the passage from the north-west through the Delhi gateway to the broad Ganga plain. The routes from Peshawar and Multan to Delhi converge here. This area, as a whole, witnessed some important historical events and movements. Unlike Kurukshetra which lies to its north, and Delhi which lies 40 miles to its south, Rohtak itself has never been the centre of great and determining events. Nevertheless, lying in an area of much political activity it could survive and maintain its identity because its inhabitants were virile people.

It is not possible to write a connected account of its ancient history because the district, as we know it today, only began to take shape in the early part of the 19th century when the area came under the British. It was in 1912 that the present district with its 4 tahsils was formed.

The earliest reference to the area comprising the Rohtak district goes back to pre-history. The archaeological finds discovered here suggest traces of the Indus Valley Civilization. Possibly the Harappan people, when pressed by the Aryan immigrants, moved south-eastwards and founded their settlements here for sometime. The region is mentioned later in the *Mahabharata* as Bahudhanyaka inhabited by the people called Mattamayuraka. Nakula, the Pandava warrior advanced on Rohitaka (Rohtak) which was then abundant in horses, cattle and agricultural production. The Yaudheya coinage discovered recently in this region, supports this legend.

Rohtak seems to have been the centre and possibly the capital town of the Yaudheya tribe which ruled over a large area extending over what now forms Haryana, and adjoining tracts of U.P. and Rajasthan, between c.150 B.C. and A.D. 350. This is supported by the discovery of a large number of coin-moulds of the Yaudheya tribe from Khokra Kot.

We next hear about the Yaudheyas in the 4th century A.D. in the days of the Guptas when according to the inscription of Samudragupta on Asoka Pillar at Allahabad, they paid tribute to the Gupta empire. The drummers of Rohtak playing folk music in Yaudheya times to the accompaniment of lutes were known as far as the famous Gupta city of Ujjain. There is nothing worthy of note about Rohtak in the years following the decline of the Guptas except that it changed hands between the rulers of Kashmir and the Rajput Gurjara-Pratiharas who ruled over an extensive empire from Kanauj. The Pehowa inscription of A.D. 882 discovered in the Kurnal district, proves that it was included in the empire of Bhoja of the latter dynasty. Rohtak and the adjoining area came under the Tomara Rajputs who ruled over the 'Hariyana' country from their capital 'Dhillika', i.e. modern Delhi, traditionally founded in A.D. 736. It appears from the account of village settlements based on local studies made by Fanshawe in his Settlement Report of 1880 that about the 9th and 10th centuries, a number of Rajput clans as well as communities of Jats came to settle in this area. They founded their villages in waste jungle or occupied settled sites. The local distribution of these communities led him to conclude that the Jats followed the Rajputs who had immigrated into India at an earlier period and had become more completely Hinduised by the time the Jats appeared on the scene.

### THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD

The Tomara Rajputs ruled over 'Hariyana' from Delhi when the Ghaznavids invaded India from the north-west. The kingdom of Lahore was annexed by the Ghaznavids by 1020. Sultan Masud, the successor of Sultan Mahmud, in the effort to extend his power, advanced towards Hansi and invested the fort. After the fall of Hansi he marched to Sonapat and defeated its governor, Dipal Har.<sup>1</sup> While the Tomaras of Delhi succeeded in recovering these territories, they made no

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1. The word 'Hariyana' occurred in a Delhi Museum inscription dated A.D. 1323 which referred to this region as a 'very heaven on earth' and included Delhi (Dhillika) in it. It comprised the whole tract of land bounded by the Himalayas in the north, the Rajasthan desert and the Aravallis in the south, the Ganga basin in the east and the Satlaj basin in the west.

2. R. C. Majumdar, *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. V, *The Struggle for Empire*, p. 93.



attempt to oust the Muslims from the kingdom of Lahore. The later Ghaznavids were not able to extend their power. Nor did the Tomaras attempt to oust them. In this way for about a century and a half the Muslims and the Rajputs co-existed side by side. This position however changed with the fall of the Ghaznavids, when the kingdom of Lahore fell into the hands of the Ghuris and the Tomaras of Delhi were overpowered by the Chahamanas.

The Chahamanas of Ajmer, after subduing the Tomaras by the middle of the 12th century soon came face to face with the Ghuris. After taking Lahore in 1186, Muhammad Ghuri encountered the Chahamanas under Prithviraja. Beaten in his first encounter in 1190-91 at Taraîn (Taraori), fourteen miles from Thanesar in the Karnal district, he came back the following year to defeat Prithviraja in 1192. In conquering that portion of Haryana which now lies in the present district of Rohtak, he destroyed the most important town of Maham which was re-built many years later under settled conditions.

The Sultanate of Delhi established in 1206 depended on the support of Muslim nobles. On account of its nearness to Delhi, the Rohtak area influenced the struggles among the aspirants for the throne of Delhi. The restless Hindu chiefs of the area, ready to assert their independence, were kept in check by the newly-settled Muslim chiefs, whose own loyalty and support were determined by motives of self-interest. The Haryana area in general and the Rohtak area with its population of Jats and Rajputs in particular, could therefore be a source of strength or weakness to the Sultans depending on the political circumstances and the intrigues and proclivities of the chiefs at a given time. To illustrate this point by a few examples from the history of the Sultanate, Kaikhusrav, grandson of Balban and a rival of Sultan Kaiqubad, was murdered at Rohtak, with the connivance of some local chiefs. Again, towards the end of the Tughluq period just before the invasion of Timur, the nobles of Delhi and Haryana were sharply divided in their loyalties towards the rival claimants to the throne. One group supported Mahmud Shah at Delhi but the amirs of Firuzabad, the Doab, Sambal, Panipat, Jhajjar and Rohtak favoured Nusrat Shah who set up a rival court at Firuzabad,

close to Delhi.<sup>1</sup> Khizr Khan, the Governor of Multan, anxious to take advantage of the anarchy prevailing in the Sultanate after the invasion of Timur, eventually succeeded in founding the Sayyid dynasty with the active support of the amirs of Haryana.<sup>2</sup> On a later occasion when Humayun after his final defeat at the hands of Sher Shah fled the country he met his brother, Hindal, at Rohtak where they concerted their plans to proceed towards Lahore.

The Sultans, and the Mughal emperors after them, took several measures to improve the Haryana tract by constructing canals. Firuz Tughluq is credited with building five canals, one of which ran from the Satluj as far as Jhajjar. Later, Ali Mardan Khan in the reign of Shah Jahan diverted its water to the Rohtak canal.<sup>3</sup>

During the Mughal period territories in the Rohtak area often changed hands as a consequence of constant fighting between the Sikhs, Jats, Marathas and the Rajputs. Some changes were also made to serve the administrative purposes of the rulers in Delhi. Under Akbar, the present Rohtak district, a part of the subah of Delhi, fell within the *sarkars* of Delhi and Hissar Firoza and enjoyed political stability.

With the decline of the Mughal empire, territorial ambitions were let loose and the royal decree in this area was only heeded if backed by force. Frequent changes in the ownership of estates were effected either by imperial orders in favour of loyal nobles or were brought about by powerful local parties backing their claims with force. Above all, the Maratha chieftains, Holkar and Sindhia were vigorously engaged in extending their territories in this area. Whoever was in authority, it was the cultivator who suffered by having to pay taxes to changing masters. For example, Maham bestowed by Akbar in jagir on Shahbaz Khan Afghan, was plundered by the Rajputs under Durga Das in the time of Aurangzeb. In subsequent years, the Marathas disregarded the imperial decree with impunity. Emperor Farrukh-siyar granted the Rohtak area along with the rest of Haryana in 1718 to his Minister Rukn-ud-din who transferred it a few years later to the Nawab of Farrukhnagar. This family was in possession of a large

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1. R.C. Majumdar, *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. VI, *The Delhi Sultanate*, p. 113

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 122-23.

3. No trace of any of these two canals remains now.



part of Haryana including the present district of Rohtak when a Maratha army under Raghunath Rao and Malhar Rao Hojkar obliged the reigning Nawab to pay tribute. The custom of demanding tribute and levying contributions was not confined to the Marathas. Prince Ali Gauhar, who later became Emperor Shah Alam II, also followed this course when he visited various parts of the district of Rohtak. The Nawab of Farrukhnagar, who had previously paid tribute to the Marathas and taken a lease of his territory from them, was now forced to pay revenue to the prince also. In his campaign of collections the prince attacked Auliya Khan Baluch of Dadri in the Rohtak district, secured a promise of a large tribute and then came to restore his outpost at Jhajjar.<sup>1</sup> This was, however, not the end of the story. The Mughal emperor along with his wazir, ostensibly set out from Delhi to pursue the prince in order to prevent him from collecting revenues but actually finished by forcing the cultivators of Jhajjar, Dadri, Kaliaana and other places on the Rohtak-Gurgaon border to pay again whatever they could.

The Jats under Suraj Mal dislodged or expelled the Nawab of Farrukhnagar from his estate. Later while Jhajjar passed into the hands of Walter Reinhardt, husband of Begum Samru of Sardhana, Gohana, Maham, Rohtak and Kharkhauda were held by nominees of Najib Khan, Amir-ul-umara to Emperor Shah Alam. Between 1785 and 1803, the area of Rohtak was possessed by several parties. The northern part of the present district was with the Raja of Jind, while the southern and western parts were held precariously by the Marathas who were defied by the Jats and constantly attacked by the Sikhs. At this stage, we should turn our attention to the colourful personality of George Thomas who carved out a principality in Haryana in 1798 including Beri, Maham and Jhajjar.

George Thomas, an Irish adventurer, whose name is intimately connected with historical events in the Rohtak district was a remarkable character. Coming to India in 1780-81, he remained for a short time in the service of Begum Samru before being adopted by Appa Kandi Rao 'as his son'. This Maratha chieftain operating under the overlordship of Mahadaji Sindhia, gave the parganas of Jhajjar, Beri, Mandothi and Pataudah to George Thomas in return for the forces which he was required to maintain. It was a gift only in name. In the beginning, George Thomas only succeeded in obtaining possession of Beri; eventually, he asserted his authority over the adjacent territory and

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1. Jadunath Sarkar, *Fall of the Mughal Empire*, Vol. II, p. 116.

made Jhajjar his headquarters and erected the fort of Georgegarh (the modern Jahazgarh or Husaingunj). A little later, when he was required to raise troops for Sindhia, he was put in possession of the parganas of Panipat, Sonapat and Karnal. His growing power filled his mind with ambition. After consolidating his position at Jhajjar, he thought of establishing an independent principality for himself in the tract known as Hariyana which owing to the troubled state of the times had for many years past acknowledged no master<sup>1</sup>. Accordingly, Thomas established himself at Hansi from where he commanded a circle of 800 villages including Maham. He had to campaign against the Rajputs, Sikhs and Marathas to retain his territories. Sindhia now became jealous of Thomas's progress and ordered General M. Perron (Governor of the Ganga Doab) to attack him in 1801. The operations launched by the Marathas incited the rulers of neighbouring territories, the Sikhs, Jats and Rajputs to join hands against their formidable adversary. Thomas was outmatched in numbers when the siege of Georgegarh began, but he decided to fight. Betrayed by several of his chief officers, he proceeded towards Hansi where he abandoned his claims to power. He died soon afterwards at Burhanpur while on his way to Calcutta. It was not, however, the Marathas under Sindhia who were destined to become supreme in this area.

### THE BRITISH PERIOD

Within two years of the abandonment of his dominion by George Thomas, the rising power of Sindhia in North India was completely broken by the British forces under General Lake in the Second Maratha War. The Rohtak district, with other possessions of Sindhia west of the Yamuna, passed on to the British East India Company by the treaty of Surji Arjungaon in 1803.

General Lake was of the view that the British should not hold large territories beyond the Yamuna. Accordingly, he established a number of estates to serve as buffer outposts between the British border and the Sikhs. Territories were thus granted to the chiefs of Dujana, Jhajjar, Bahadurgarh, Pataudi, Jind and Kaithal. Out of all these, the history of Dujana, Jhajjar and Bahadurgarh estates which now form part of the Rohtak district is given below.

The Dujana family was descended from Nawab Abd-us Samad Khan. Beginning his career as a *risaldar* in the service of Peshwa

1. *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 77.



Baji Rao, he transferred his allegiance to the British. General Lake granted him the estate of Dujana for his services at Bharatpur and in the pursuit of Jaswant Rao Holkar. Finding himself incapable of holding a large jagir, he retained only the grant of villages of Dujana and Mehrana in 1811. His grandson Hussan Ali Khan was the Nawab of Dujana when the Uprising of 1857 took place. General Lake granted Jhajjar and Bahadurgarh to Nawab Nijabat Ali Khan, a leader of free lances, who, like Abd-us Samad Khan had also transferred his allegiance to the British. The Bahadurgarh jagir was included in the Jhajjar grant but specifically in favour of Mohammad Ismael Khan, brother of Nawab Nijabat Ali Khan. The Nawab's family claimed a brilliant military tradition of service, first under Ali Vardi Khan, the Mughal Viceroy of Bengal, then under the Nawab of Oudh and finally under the banner of the Mughal imperial army. He is described as having been a fine soldier and a cool-headed and farseeing man. While he lived in Delhi, his son Faiz Mohammad Khan, on assuming charge of the jagir, constructed many buildings at Jhajjar, introduced and encouraged the manufacture of salt, re-established deserted villages and built the Badli bund. He gathered at his court poets and learned men and altogether showed himself to be an able and worthy chief until his death in 1835. His grandson Nawab Abd-ur-Rahman Khan built the palace in the Jehanara garden, and the residence and the tank at Chhuchhakwas. Both the jagirs of Jhajjar and Bahadurgarh of this family were confiscated after the Uprising of 1857.

### Uprising of 1857

The greater part of the population in the country between the Yamuna and the Satluj showed sympathy with the Uprising of 1857. In the Rohtak district,<sup>1</sup> the Ranghars and Jats who had been serving in the regular regiments of the East India Company in large numbers were discontented with their British masters. The sepoys of these regiments coming home on leave spread disaffection among the villagers. Noticing these symptoms, John Adam Loch, Collector of Rohtak, took steps to preserve order by calling into headquarters all the sepoys who were on leave in the district. The

1. The formation of the Rohtak district dates from 1809 when the Dujana chief abandoned the gift. It assumed its status as a district in 1824. The territorial changes, additions and alterations which took place thereafter have been detailed in Chapter I.

horsemen sent to Rohtak for help by the Nawab of Jhajjar in response to the demand of the Collector proved very untuly and in fact inflamed the villagers as they came along. As the days passed, the dissatisfied sections of the population began to stir the entire population against the British. The arrival of Tafazzal Hussain, an emissary of Emperor Bahadur Shah with a small force in Rohtak added fuel to the fire. The Collector, John Adam Loch, found himself in a difficult situation. Failing to give fight to Tafazzal Hussain, he fled to Gohana with Thanedar Bhure Khan. The other officials and Europeans followed his example to run away. Unopposed, the troops burnt the offices, courts and bungalows of the British officials. They destroyed official records, plundered the wealthy people in the town and forced their way into the District Jail to set free the prisoners inside it. On his way back to Delhi with a part of the Rohtak Treasury in his possession, Tafazzal Hussain attacked the town of Sampla where he burnt all the buildings in which the Europeans lived. The customs bungalows at Maham, Madina and Mandothi were also burnt down. True that the troops of Tafazzal Hussain did not soil their hands with British blood but they had done enough damage in the Rohtak area before returning to Delhi. All outward signs of law and order now disappeared for a time. The Ranghars hoisted their own flag. Hearing how things had gone well, the Emperor of Delhi issued a proclamation to the people of Rohtak forbidding acts of violence and enjoining obedience to the landlords who were loyal to his cause.

The arrival of the 60th Regiment of Native Infantry under Thomas Seaton, accompanied by Loch, the Collector, checked disorder for a while. This regiment was encamped in the compound of the District Courts but its loyalty could not be relied upon in view of its deteriorating morale. The expected happened on the afternoon of the 10th June when the grenadier company which had all along been the spearhead of insubordination revolted and seized their arms. As the European officers rode away, they were fired upon by their men. Turning their back on Rohtak these officers made for Delhi and reached the Ridge on the morning of the 11th June. Loch fled on foot to Sampla and thence on horseback to Bahadurgarh from where he reached Delhi.

With no one in command of the administration, chaos reigned supreme. The local chiefs engaged themselves in fierce feuds to settle old scores. The Ranghars used the opportunity to collect in large numbers under the leadership of one Bahar Khan. The British feared that these rebel forces in the Rohtak area would



impede the advance of the siege train on its way to Delhi from Ferozepur. Capt. Hodson of the British army was sent from Delhi with a small force to prevent the rebels from doing so. After dealing with the men of the irregular corps whom he encountered at Kharkhauda, Hodson proceeded towards Rohtak where he successfully engaged the Ranghars in an action. He then returned to Delhi trusting that the loyal Raja of Jind would be able to maintain a semblance of order in the area.

The authority of the British Government in Rohtak was not restored until 13 days after the fall of Delhi. In September, General Van Cortlandt marched into the district to punish all concerned in the Uprising. The villages which were prominent in their opposition to the British were fined a total of Rs. 63,000 while the lands of those who were considered guilty were confiscated. The worst sufferers were the Ranghars.

Abd-ur-Rahman Khan, Nawab of Jhajjar, was suspected of having abetted the rebels and others who were waging war against the British Government. While he had ignored the appeals of the British authorities for assistance, he had most readily put into effect the orders of Emperor Bahadur Shah, furnished him troops, presented him with a *nazar* and had remained in regular correspondence with the imperial court. The suspicion against him was strengthened by the fact that his father-in-law, Abd-us Samad Khan, had fought against the British at Delhi. Col. Lawrence summoned the Nawab to come to Chhachhakwas and surrender himself, which he did on the 18th October, after which the fort of Jhajjar was occupied. The Jhajjar territory was placed under the management of Col. Lawrence pending the result of the Nawab's trial, which took place at Delhi in the Audience Hall before a Military Commission on the 14th December. Having been found guilty, the Nawab was sentenced to be hanged. He was executed on the 23rd December in front of the Red Fort and his body was consigned to the ignominy of a nameless pit.

Bahadur Jang Khan, Nawab of Bahadurgarh, was at Dadri in May 1857, and remained there until he surrendered to the British like his cousin, the Nawab of Jhajjar. He had not taken any active part against the British except that he had sent an offering to the emperor and addressed him a letter of praise. Besides, the rebels of Delhi had drawn supplies from Bahadurgarh. Taking all these things into consideration, together with his old age, it was decided not to

try him for life, but to confiscate his possessions. The Nawab was removed to Lahore where he was given a pension of Rs. 1,000 a month.

### Political Upheaval

Apart from the jagirdars who were punished for their anti-British activities during the Uprising of 1857, the Rohtak district itself suffered a set-back. The district along with the south-east Punjab, roughly comprising Haryana, which had hitherto been a part of the North-Western Provinces was tagged to the Punjab. It was not included in any of the development programmes though the Government was not averse to using the martial spirit of the people by turning it into a recruiting ground for the British army. Rohtak thus became a backward district in which the pace of change and development was slow. In such circumstances, various factors combined to engender discontentment. The resources of the peasants were crippled by many years of drought and famine after 1895. Many of them, immersed in debt, would have been dispossessed of their lands but for the *Land Alienation Act* of 1900. Moreover, the Jats returning home after service in the First World War became deeply conscious of the backwardness of their land. They realised that their lot could be improved only through political awakening and by and by this feeling was shared by a large number of people.

The Arya Samaj movement in its own way accelerated the desire for reform. Starting in about 1890 with a *mandir* in Rohtak, the Arya Samaj movement soon spread to Sanghi, Maham, Jhajjar and Mahra. It laid great stress on starting educational institutions and removing untouchability. This programme, creating a new social consciousness, spread gradually from urban to rural areas.

Political consciousness was engendered by the Indian National Congress whose programme began to attract attention. On October 12, 1888 a Congress meeting attended by many lawyers and Honorary Magistrates was held at Chopal Dehri, Rohtak, under the presidentship of Torabaz Khan where Lala Lajpat Rai spoke. About the same time the Arya Samaj added to excitement by focussing public attention on its programme of anti-cow slaughter. The Government met the situation in 1910 by proclaiming the district under the Prevention of Seditious Meetings Act, 1907.



At this stage, a local leader appeared on the scene whose dynamic personality was to exercise a deep influence on public life of the Punjab for many years to come. This personality was Chhotu Ram. Born in a Jat family of Garhi Sampla, he shifted to Rohtak to practise as a lawyer towards the end of 1912. As a member of the Arya Samaj, he soon became a popular figure in social and legal circles. The emphasis he laid on social, economic and educational advancement created a consciousness among the peasantry of their political rights also. The Jat Sabha which Chhotu Ram founded, aroused their feelings against indebtedness, litigation and bribery. The *Jat Gazette*, founded at Rohtak in 1916, began to publicise the interests of the zamindars in general.

During the First World War the effort of the Rohtak district in supplying manpower to the army and making substantial contributions to various funds placed it among the first five districts of the province. Lord Chelmsford, the Viceroy made a special visit to Rohtak as a mark of appreciation.

Chhotu Ram's mind was already leaning towards the interests of the rural masses. The war became a turning point in his political career. Realising that before long, India would benefit by political reforms, he aligned his programme to the amelioration of the zamindars and rural masses in the whole of the province. This extended field of activity turned him into a prominent figure in the national affairs of the country. He began to take a leading share in the welfare of zamindars. Judging in terms of the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1919, which gave a distinct political advantage to the rural areas by creating special constituencies of great landholders and giving a commanding majority of rural seats in the Provincial Council, this effort was entirely worth-while.

During these years, while the Government was going ahead with its programme of political reform, the programmes of the Indian National Congress were also being actively carried out in the district. In response to the call given by Mahatma Gandhi in 1919, hartals were observed and demonstrations were held in March-April at Rohtak, Sonapat, Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar and other places as a protest against the Rowlatt Acts which were passed to give more executive powers to the government to intern people without trial. Meetings were also held to protest against Gandhiji's arrest at Palwal when he was on his way to Delhi. The proximity to Delhi intensified all these programmes in the district.

The news of the massacre of Jallianwala Bagh on April 13, 1919, struck the people of Rohtak with horror. On April 14, demonstrations were held throughout the district and public property was damaged by angry mobs at Rohtak, Samar Gopalpur and Gohana. Excitement ran high. The Government strengthened the executive authorities with greater powers to suppress the disturbances with a strong hand.

The Indian National Congress was not taking the acts of repression lying down. In 1920, Gandhiji in alliance with Ali Brothers, the Khilafat leaders, launched an All-India campaign of non-violent non-co-operation to bring the British administration to a standstill. A district conference, organised at Rohtak in November 1920, and attended by ten to fifteen thousand persons, passed a resolution to launch non-co-operation. Being strongly opposed to this move, Chhotu Ram and his followers severed their connection with the Congress. But under the influence of Gandhiji in the country the non-co-operation movement progressed in Rohtak. A Swaraj Ashram to serve as office, reading-room and hostel for workers was established on Railway Road, Rohtak. In response to Gandhiji's call to do away with Government sponsored institutions, Jat High School and Vaish High School, Rohtak, disaffiliated themselves from the University of the Panjab. Gandhiji and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad addressed a large public meeting at Kalanaur after an attempt to hold a Khilafat meeting at Sonapat had been thwarted. In 1921, following the all-India line, the District Congress Committee decided to propagate the Congress programme in depth by forming Tahsil Congress Committees. Jhajjar responded to this effort by hoisting the Congress flag at the town hall. The Government damped the spirits of the people by arresting the leaders from Jhajjar, Rohtak, Maham and a few villages. The non-co-operation movement had not made much headway but the Congress tried to keep up the public morale by organising a provincial political conference at Rohtak towards the end of 1922.

The Congress had not participated in the general elections of 1920, held under the Government of India Act, 1919. The dissidents, Chhotu Ram and Lal Chand, however, contested the election and won. Two years later, the question was hotly debated in the Congress circles as to whether any change was desirable in the Congress attitude towards the legislatures. This resulted in the emergence of the Swarajya Party whose aim was to win as many seats in the legislative bodies as possible and to hinder the working of the legislatures from within.



A branch of the Swarajya Party was formed at Rohtak under the Leadership of Shri Ram Sharma, whose local paper, the *Haryana Tilak* came to be regarded as the organ of the Congress in this region. The candidates of the Swarajya Party were returned from the urban constituencies whereas rural seats were captured by the Zamindara League of Lal Chand and Chhotu Ram. The Swarajya Party came to an end in the district after the death in 1925 of Deshbandhu C. R. Das, one of its founders.

A few years later, another factor which kept the agitation against the British at a high pitch in the whole country was the appointment of the Simon Commission in 1928. Rohtak and Jhajjar Municipal Committees expressed their dissatisfaction by adopting a resolution protesting against the Commission. In March 1929, a provincial political conference held at Rohtak was addressed by Jawaharlal Nehru. A few months later, the annual session of the Indian National Congress held in Lahore reached a momentous decision. It was resolved that the goal of India henceforward would not be dominion status but complete independence. The All-India Congress Committee was required to launch a programme of civil disobedience and to observe the 26th of January as Independence Day throughout the country. The Rohtak district responded to this programme well. The national week was celebrated with great enthusiasm. Shops selling foreign goods and liquor were picketed. Vigorous propaganda dissuaded large numbers of students from attending local educational institutions where many students gave up their studies. Foreign cloth was burnt in bonfires. The leaders who organised this programme and called a meeting at Rohtak to advise people to remain firm were arrested and drafted to different jails all over the province. They were only released with prisoners from other districts when the Gandhi-Irwin Pact was made in 1931. The Congress on its part called off its programme of civil disobedience. All hopes were then fixed on the decisions of the Round Table Conference in London which Gandhiji was to attend as the sole representative of the Congress.

While the District Congress Committee of Rohtak suspended its programme of civil disobedience as required, it did very useful organisational work during the Gandhi-Irwin Pact period. Conferences were held and more than 200 Congress Committees were formed. Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, invited to address a provincial conference stressed the need of Hindu-Muslim unity. This conference was attended by a large number of ladies and for the first time a Sewa Dal camp

was started at Rohtak in November 1931, to impart training to Congress volunteers.

The talks in London failed and Gandhiji returned home to renew the programme of civil disobedience which had been suspended. Congress workers in the district once more responded to the national call and despite the repressive measures of Government continued to carry out the programme of civil disobedience until the Congress High Command terminated it in 1934.

After the suspension of the Civil Disobedience Movement, the Congress decided to participate in the elections to the legislatures and the local bodies which were to be held after the passing of the Government of India Act, 1935. Unlike six other provinces in India in which the Congress ministries formed the Government, the Punjab came to be governed by the Unionist Party based on the programme of the Zamindara League.

The District Congress Committee however continued to carry out its programme of establishing contact with the masses in rural areas.

The outbreak of World War II overshadowed all other events. The Congress refused to co-operate with the Government because the Governor General and Viceroy had declared without consulting representative governments in the provinces that India would join the Allies. The Congress ministries resigned office in protest and the Civil Disobedience Movement was revived in the district. *Satyagrahis* who shouted slogans were arrested. Among the imprisoned *Satyagrahis* was Shri Ram Sharma who made a whirlwind tour of the district before courting arrest.

The District Congress Committee unanimously supported the 'Quit India' resolution adopted by the Congress in 1942. The arrest of Gandhiji in August 1942, was followed by hartals and processions over nearly the whole of the district. The repressive measures of the Government provoked arson and violence at many places. An effort was made to set at fire the library of the Government College, Rohtak, on October 31, 1942. Telephone wires were cut, fish-plates were removed from railway lines and letter-boxes were burnt by reactionary elements in the movement. A sizeable number of people courted arrest.

The national upsurge expressed itself in another way during the war. Subhash Chandra Bose organised the Indian National Army from



among those serving on the south-east Asia front in the British Indian army. Bose's death was mourned in Rohtak as a great national loss and the L.N.A. week was observed with great enthusiasm.

After India achieved independence on August 15, 1947, the princely States were merged in the Indian Union. The Rohtak district assumed its present form in 1948 by the merger of the erstwhile Dujana State into it. The migration of large numbers of people from West Punjab created numerous problems of settlement and social re-adjustment. The last two decades have witnessed change in many directions. The subsequent Chapters will throw light on what developments have been made in different spheres of activity during the last two decades.

One of the most significant of these changes has been the formation of Haryana as a separate State on November 1, 1966. Since then the following ministries have existed under the leadership of the Chief Ministers whose names are given below:

Name	From	To
Bhagwat Dayal Sharma	November 1, 1966	March 24, 1967 (Forenoon)
Birender Singh	March 24, 1967	November 21, 1967 (Forenoon)
Bansi Lal	May 21, 1968	Continuing

During the period between November 21, 1967, and May 21, 1968, the State remained under the President's rule.

We are too near the present to view the historical importance of these changes.

## CHAPTER III

### PEOPLE

#### Population

The population of the district increased from 8,58,184 in 1901 to 14,20,391 in 1961. An examination of the table given below shows that the year 1931 was a demographic divide:

Census year	Population	Variation	Percentage increase(+) or decrease(—)
1901	8,58,184		
1911	7,40,319	(—) 1,17,865	(—) 13.7
1921	7,98,105	(+) 57,786	(+) 7.8
1931	8,33,837	(+) 35,732	(+) 4.5
1941	9,87,065	(+) 1,53,228	(+) 18.4
1951	11,22,046	(+) 1,34,981	(+) 13.7
1961	14,20,391	(+) 2,98,345	(+) 26.6
1901—61		(+) 5,62,207	(+) 65.5

The major portion of the increase of 65.5 per cent in population during these 60 years occurred during the second part covering 1931—1961. This position is easily explained by the fact that a number of natural catastrophes such as drought, famine and epidemic resulted in high mortality during 1901—1931. Famine and plague were rampant in 1901—1911 and during the decade 1921—1931 plague again took a heavy toll in the years 1924 and 1926. On the other hand, the three decades after 1931 recorded a steady rate of growth. Only the middle decade 1941—1951, recorded a lower rate of growth, owing to the fact that the Hindus, Sikhs and others who migrated to this district after the Partition were 40,361 less than the Muslims who left for Pakistan. The health measures taken by the Government in the post-Partition years reduced the death rate while the birth rate remained almost



unchanged. This explains the increase of 26.6 per cent in the third decade, 1951—1961, which was the highest in this period of 60 years. This growth rate approximated the natural growth rate deduced from the difference in the number of births and deaths.

Apart from the migration of large numbers following the Partition, the population of the district has not otherwise been affected by movements of people leaving the district or coming into it. This is significantly borne out by the fact that 69 per cent of people were recorded to have been born in the very town or village in which they were enumerated in 1961. The larger number of females leaving the place of birth is accounted for by the fact of marriage. Out of the remaining 31 per cent of population recorded as having come from other places in 1961 only 14.6 per cent were recorded to have come from within the district. Out of the remaining 16.4 per cent which had come from outside the district only 4 per cent of the total population had come from other States in India, mainly from Delhi (25,846), Uttar Pradesh (24,817) and Rajasthan (5,275). The remaining 12.4 per cent represented the number of people who had migrated to the district from West Punjab after the Partition. This new element introduced into the indigenous population of the district influenced social and economic life in many ways as the later Chapters will indicate.

Standing third in point of population in the State, the district ranks first in the density of population. Here again, as the table given below shows, while density varied slightly during the first half of the demographic divide (1901—1931), it shot up in the subsequent decades on account of the increase in population and by 1961 it was almost doubled:

Census year	Density (Population per square mile)
1901	368
1911	317
1921	342
1931	358
1941	423
1951	482
1961	609

This density is higher in the Rohtak tahsil mainly on account of the population of Rohtak itself. The lowest density is in the Jhajjar tahsil.

Additional housing is essential to relieve the inconveniences of increased density as conditions of living and working are determined by it. During the period 1951—1961 the rural dwellings increased by 17.7 per cent to cover an increase of 26.3 per cent in rural population. In urban areas while the population increased by 28.8 per cent the urban dwellings increased by 55.5 per cent. In the district as a whole the dwellings increased by 22.2 per cent as against an increase of 26.6 per cent in population. These figures leave no doubt in one's mind that the problem of shortage of housing, unsatisfactory as it is in the whole district, was accentuated in rural areas during this decade.

The total of 2,18,078 houses (1,82,975 rural and 35,103 urban) in the district were occupied by 14,15,778 persons. The houseless persons consisting of wandering tribes, *sadhus* and pavement dwellers was limited to 4,613. Normally a single house was used by one household<sup>1</sup> which on an average consisted of 6.4 persons.<sup>2</sup> The over-burdened households reflect the shortage of houses in the district.

### Distribution of Population

There are 761 villages in which 86.3 per cent of the population lives. The remaining 13.7 per cent of the population lives in seven towns. A reference may be made to Table III of Appendix for details. The village population can be grouped under different units as follows :—

Unit of population	Number of villages	Total population
Less than 200	31	3,279
Between 200 and 499	87	33,250
Between 500 and 999	191	1,38,311
Between 1,000 and 1,999	244	3,51,461
Between 2,000 and 4,999	186	5,61,460
Between 5,000 and 9,999	22	1,38,123
Total	761	12,25,884

1. The term household is taken to mean a group of persons who commonly live together and take their meals from a common kitchen unless exigencies of work prevent any one of them from doing so.

2. *Census of India, 1961, Punjab, Report on Housing and Establishments*, p. 15.



This table shows that 621 villages out of the total number of 761 villages are of moderately good size, with the population ranging between 500 and 5,000. By and large the villages in the Rohtak and Gohana tahsils have an average population of over 2,000 persons whereas the villages in the Jhajjar and Sonapat tahsils have about 1,200 persons. The only exception is Dighal, a village in Jhajjar tahsil, which has a population of 8,233. None of the seven towns qualifies as a class I town as the population is less than one lakh. Rohtak with its population of 88,193 persons is a class II town. Sonapat is a class III town with a population of 45,882; its population increased by 52 per cent during 1951—61 owing to its industrial development. Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar, Gohana and Beri are ranked as class IV towns each with its population ranging between 10,000 and 19,999. The only class V town is Maham with a population of 9,300.

As the Chapter on 'Agriculture and Irrigation' indicates, in spite of some shift of rural population to urban areas consequent upon industrial development, the pattern of distribution of population between urban and rural areas has not been greatly affected. To some extent this balance has been maintained by a large number of people migrating from Pakistan and settling down in rural areas for business purposes in addition to agricultural pursuits.

**Sex ratio.**—According to the census of 1961 there were 891 females per thousand males. This ratio more or less held good in all the tahsils of the district except that Jhajjar had 909 females per thousand males.

### Language

The census of 1961 revealed a multiplicity of 22 spoken languages and dialects of which Hindi is spoken all over the district by 989.1 persons per thousand. Only 10 per thousand speak Panjabi, probably displaced persons from Pakistan. Their effort to converse in Hindi produces a mixed speech which tends to be quite amusing. Urdu is spoken by the negligible minority of Muslims who traditionally stick to the use of their mother tongue.

Pure or *theth* Haryanvi, the major dialect, has many dialectic varieties which are spoken in different parts of the district. Ahirwati, another dialect of the district is a mixed product of Haryanvi vocabulary and Mewati structures. Depending on the nature of the mixture, it is sometimes considered as Haryanvi

influenced by Mewati and at other times Mewati influenced by Haryanvi.

The coming of displaced persons from West Punjab and the progress of literacy through the medium of Hindi among the masses are tending to produce an interesting linguistic pattern in moulding which the vocabulary and pronunciation of the displaced people are playing an important part.

Hindi in Devnagari script is used for writing purposes by an ever-increasing number of people while the use of Urdu in Persian script is limited to the older generation.

### RELIGION AND CASTE

The vast bulk of the population amounting to 98.59 per cent professes Hinduism in various forms. However, the Muslims and Sikhs form about one per cent of the population and the number of Jains and Buddhists is negligible.

The Muslims who number 7,349 according to the census of 1961 are chiefly found in the Sonapat tahsil. They observe their various religious festivals like Id-ul-Zuha, Ramzan and Id-ul-Fitr. They also observe Muharram to commemorate the martyrdom of Hassan and Hussain, the Prophet's grandsons. The Sikhs visit *gurdwaras* and the Jains worship the image of Tirthankaras in their own temples.

Christianity was introduced in the district about a century ago under the patronage of the British masters. By the beginning of the 20th century, there were churches at Sonapat, Kharkhauda, Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar, Rohat and Rohtak. The Methodist Church of Southern Asia is running a middle school at Sonapat and two clinics, one at Bahadurgarh and the other at Ganaur. The Church of India has established a church at Rohtak. But in general, missionary activities have slowed down after Independence.

In addition to practising their religion in their own homes and their religious places of worship, the masses follow many traditional superstitions in performing the ordinary acts of their daily life. A cat crossing one's path or a person sneezing at the outset of a special undertaking are commonly shared as bad omens as in many other parts of the country. There is a saying to the effect:

'If someone sneezes, one may take bath or food or go to sleep but should not go to another's house even if it's all made of gold.'



A woman with an empty pitcher crossing one's path is considered as an inauspicious sign. In fact nothing of any importance like, laying the foundation of a house, occupying a new house, digging a well or opening a new shop is done without consulting an astrologer about the auspicious time of commencement.

The local tutelary gods and saints worshipped by the population since time immemorial have lost much of their former importance though they have not disappeared altogether. For example, mention may be made of a Ghaibi Pir (hidden saint) also known as Bala Sayyad. People visit his shrine, built squarely in the form of a tomb on the top of Behrampur hill<sup>1</sup> on every Sunday. The masses in rural areas in particular worship Sitla Mata or Devi, also called Ganwali and Kandi Mata for protection from smallpox. Mata is usually worshipped on Tuesday in the month of Chaitra. Kandi Mata is worshipped on the second day after recovery from an attack of smallpox. Masani is worshipped and propitiated in the hope that children may not be inflicted with *masan*, a disease of emaciation or atrophy.

The Arya Samaj since its introduction has been preaching strongly against superstitions, omens and useless rites, ceremonies and customs. It has exercised a deep influence on the Jats, a unique feature of which is that the Jat womenfolk are generally left free to adopt any religious ceremonies. Consequently the performance of *shradha* ceremony has in many castes been reduced to a formality or even abandoned. The incoming of displaced persons from Pakistan introduced a contrary element as most of these people were followers of the Sanatan Dharma and not of the Arya Samaj. Here again, as in the case of language, the results of the inter-action of new social forces can be judged properly only after the lapse of a certain period of time.

### Festivals

Some of the principal Hindu festivals like Holi, Janam Ashtmi, Dussehra and Diwali and others like Sivaratri, Ram Naumi, Solono (Raksha Bandhan) and Bhai Duj are observed by the Hindus here as in other parts of the country. It is, therefore, not necessary to give a detailed account of their observance except when there is something

1. In fact there is no hill. It is only a small raised place situated near Garhi Rajlu, about one mile from Sandhal Kalan.

distinctive or peculiar to this region in the celebration of any of them. There are other festivals, however, which are only of local importance and these require a more detailed description.

For example, people in rural areas celebrate Holi somewhat differently. For many days before the festival, married women play Holi with men by throwing coloured water on them. This resembles what happens traditionally at Barsana, in Mathura. On Dhulendi (Phag), the day following Holi, the menfolk take their turn and throw water on the women who reply by beating the men with sticks or *kolras* (twisted cloth strips). The men act as if they are powerless, and their inability to defend themselves leads to much fun and frolic.

On the occasion of Janam Ashtmi people take out Lord Krishna's image in *dolas* and decorated palanquins in a festival locally called Jal Jholni. While the burning of effigies at the end of Dussehra is not customary in rural areas, the village girls observe Sanjhi for a period of 10 days. They move out at night with earthen pots on their heads. These pots have holes all around and are lighted with *diyas* (earthen lamps) placed in them. This presents a lovely sight. The boys try to break the earthen pots which the girls protect. On the Dussehra evening these earthen pots with lighted *diyas* inside are floated in ponds. The lighted *diya* symbolises Sita (purity) while the boys represent Rakshasas (evil powers) from whose custody Sita is released. On this occasion while the Brahmans offer tender barley shoots to their patrons, the sisters do the same to their brothers and both receive monetary gifts in return. This function is known as Naurte. In villages, Gir-ri, which precedes Diwali, is most significant. Every household decorates the horns of its cattle with peacock feathers which are considered sacred and covers their bodies with coloured cloth on which *kauries* (cowries) are sewn. On the third day, i.e. the day following Diwali, early in the morning *gasar* (cow dung cakes) are made to observe Govardhan Puja. This is done for the first time after the rainy season which indicates the end of the fermentation stage of cow dung.

**Gugga Naumi.**—Gugga Naumi is a religious festival connected with snake worship observed on Bhadon 9 (August-September). A number of legends have clustered around Gugga, who is also called Gugga Pir or Zahir Pir (the Saint Apparent). Some also refer to him as Baggarwala (he of the Baggar) because of his grave near Dadrowa (near Ganganagar), a tract over which he is said to have



ruled. Flourishing about the middle of 12th century, Gugga Bir (Gugga the Hero) commanded great respect. The Muslims going to his shrine are supposed to have altered the name of Gugga Bir to Gugga Pir (Gugga Saint). Some people, however, think that Gugga became a Muslim and hence the changed name. He was reputed to have the power of curing the people bitten by snakes. Monday is his day, the 9th is his date because he descended into the earth on Bhadon 9. Gugga Pir's shrine is distinguished by its square shape with minarets and domed roof and is known as *mari*. This festival is particularly celebrated in the district at Samchana and Khanpur Kalan (Rohtak tahsil), Kanodah, Gurawar, Sewana, Rattanthal, Salhawas, Chhapar, Patauda, Silana, Bahadurgarh and Jhajjar (Jhajjar tahsil).

**Mela Devi.**—This festival is celebrated at Beri in the Jhajjar tahsil twice in the year on Chaitra Sudi 8 (March-April) and Asuj Sudi 8 (September-October). According to the legend the image of goddess Bhumeshwari Devi was brought from the hills and installed at Beri. Newly-married couples blessed with a son come here to pay homage.

**Mela Baba Mast Nath.**—It is celebrated in the memory of Baba Mast Nath and is held on Phalguna Sudi 7 (February-March). People worship at the *samadh* of the saint at Bohar (Rohtak tahsil). This fair is held at Khera Sadh (Rohtak tahsil) where people worship both in the temple and at the *samadh*.

**Sat Kumbh Fair.**—This fair is a religious one and is celebrated at Kheri Gujar (Sonapat tahsil) twice a year, on the last day of Sravana (July-August) and Kartik full moon day (October-November).

### Caste

The caste system with all its ramifications is observed among the Hindus but its social influence is diminishing. It must, however, be realised that caste or tribal groups have shown a strong tendency to act unitedly in political campaigns.

**Social Groups.**—The important social groups are Jats, Brahmans, Ahirs, Rajputs, Harijans, Aggarwals, Khatri and Aroras. The Jats, Brahmans, Harijans, Aggarwals, Khatri and Aroras (the last two communities migrated from West Pakistan) are scattered throughout the district. The Rajputs and Ahirs are chiefly in the Jhajjar tahsil, the latter predominating in Nahar sub-tahsil.

**Jats.**—The Jats consist of 12 major clans or *gots* and 137 minor ones. The origin of the Jats is shrouded in mystery. Some people believe that they came from outside India and others consider them to be indigenous. In any case they are traditionally treated as a separate caste or a group of castes. The Jats make brave soldiers. They care much for the physical well-being of their children. The tradition of soldiership has become hereditary in many families which take pride if all their adult male members join the army. Apart from his fighting qualities the Jat has few equals for patient industry and endurance as an agriculturist. He is clannish and cherishes the memories of ancient feuds. He is shrewd and loves a joke when he masters it.

**Brahmans.**—The Jats have traditionally needed Brahmans from the beginning for the performance of religious rites. But with the spread of the teachings of the Arya Samaj respect for the priestly class diminished. In such circumstances some Brahmans took to service and others became agriculturists.

**Ahirs.**—The origin of Ahirs is even more doubtful than that of the Jats. Like the Jats they are keen on joining the armed services and also make good farmers. The following common saying is an evidence of the Ahir's skill as an agriculturist:—

*'Kosli ka Ahir, kheti ki tadbir'*  
(Ahir of Kosli, the craft of agriculture)

**Rajputs.**—The Rajputs retain the military instincts of their forefathers and a considerable number of them joins the armed services.

**Harijans.**—Since Independence, the Harijans have become increasingly conscious of their rights and many of them are holding important positions in government service.

**Aggarwals.**—They are said to have come from Agroha (Hissar), and settled in different places in the district. Known as Mahajans they formed the economic backbone of the community. Their money-lending capacity enabled them to monopolize the village economy and obtain a hold on the agricultural land. When the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, 1900, made this impossible, they began to shift to towns. Whether in villages or towns, the position of the Aggarwals was relegated to the background by the skill and adventure of the more progressive displaced persons from West Pakistan. A



good many young Aggarwals were obliged to switch over to service and industry from their traditional family pursuit.

**Khatris and Aroras.**—These came as displaced persons, mostly from Jhang and Muzzafarpur districts of West Pakistan and established themselves as trading communities. The Aroras in particular, who came in a large number after the Partition are noted for their capacity for hard work as well as their thrift and business acumen. Energetic and enterprising by nature, they engage freely in banking, shop-keeping, trade, government service and agriculture. They turn their hands to anything and are even found weaving baskets and mats, beating out vessels of brass and copper and working as goldsmiths or as tailors.

### SOCIAL LIFE

**Joint Family System.**—The family is locally known as *kunba*. A group of families having common ancestors is called a *thola*. Two or more *tholas* are jointly called *pana*. Brothers, and occasionally cousins, farm the land jointly, but they do not always live together. The income of the whole family is spent for the benefit of all its members, earning or non-earning. Widows and children, whether their parents are dead or alive, elderly and decrepit or physically handicapped members of the family, all receive the attention of the head of family and are supported and maintained out of the joint family funds.

The joint family system which has been a distinguishing feature of Hindu society since time immemorial, is showing signs of breaking up under the stress of the changed economic and social conditions in recent times. The competition for earning a living, the increased cost of living, the tax-structure, the mobility resulting from the requirements of service, the growing spirit of individualism and, above all, the trend of the recent legislation on inheritance, all these factors spell the doom of this ancient institution. Another factor which is hastening the dissolution of the system is that boys and girls, marrying at a comparatively advanced age, prefer to live independently. This new pattern of living with an individualistic bias, is steadily emerging. Usually the branch of the family which earns more money separates from the poorer branch. Those who enter some kind of regular service, have to leave the family home and move from place to place wherever they are posted. It becomes more and more difficult for them to function effectively as

members of a joint family. The recent legislation passed by the Government, whereby even women are entitled to their share in the family property, has hastened the tendency to break up the family by assigning individual shares to the male members.

While this position is more marked in urban areas, the joint family system is weakening even in the villages, where people depend almost entirely on farming. The average holding is too small to support a joint family which continues growing in size. It is, therefore, inevitable that some members of the family should move out in search of service to the towns or elsewhere to supplement the meagre family income. In this way the migration of rural population to the cities in search of a living, whether in business, industry, service or other forms of labour, has vitally affected the structure of the joint family. Those who migrate to the towns get used to modern amenities of life and try to settle down there with their families, leaving the care of the farm to those members of the family who stay behind in the village. This kind of situation generates discontentment at home and often leads to the break-up of the family. A village youth moving to town, after a while becomes so absorbed in urban life that going back to live in his village becomes impossible, although his roots are there.

### Inheritance

The intestate property, before the enforcement of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, was inherited by the sons after the death of the father, and if there was no son, the widow of the deceased inherited it. The widow had, however, only life interest in the property and she was not legally entitled to dispose it of as she liked. Except *stridhana*<sup>1</sup> a woman was not supposed to be the absolute owner of the property, nor could a married daughter claim share in her father's property.

Now, according to the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, sons and daughters, the mother and the widow along with other heirs<sup>2</sup> of the deceased, if any, inherit the intestate property simultaneously. A daughter has as good a claim in her father's property as

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1. *Stridhana* means woman's property that is to say properties over which a woman has got absolute power of disposal.

2. Specified in Class I of the Schedule, vide Section 8 of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956.



a son, provided the father does not debar her by law. In spite of the right conferred by law, however, it appears to have become a general practice for the girls not to claim any part of the intestate property. In the absence of a brother, a girl may sometimes give her land to her near relatives, though in such cases she usually retains her right to property. In a few cases suits were instituted by daughters who were denied their share in the intestate property. But there has been general social resentment against this new legislation.

### Marriage

Monogamy is observed as a rule. Apart from the restrictions imposed by law and the economic necessities involved in having more than one wife at a time, the institution of monogamy has always had social sanction. The caste restrictions on marriage alliances still apply though not as rigidly as before. On the whole the old system is weakening under the impact of present day social forces and inter-caste marriages, though scarce, are accepted.

The customs and formalities relating to betrothal (*nata*) and leading to *rokna* or *tikka* and *sagai* are the same as elsewhere. The same applies to the preliminaries of marriage and the marriage ceremony itself. The maternal uncle of the girl or boy brings the *bhat*, a wedding suit for the girl or the boy as the case may be. The parents collect *neota* from their relations at the time of marriage. The tying of *kangna* and the *sehra* ceremony followed by *ghurchari* are performed in the same manner as elsewhere. The *baraat* is received by the bride's party on the outskirts of the village or town from where it is conducted in procession to *jandahvasa* (*dharmsala* or *chopal*). After the *barothi* or *milni* ceremony has been performed, the girl puts *jaimala* round the neck of the bridegroom. As soon as the *baraatis* have been entertained to dinner, the ceremony begins with sacred texts recited in Sanskrit. The Brahman ties the *palla* of the girl's wrap to a piece of cloth called *patka* and the boy takes the latter over his shoulder before the *phera* is performed which constitutes an essential feature of the marriage ceremony. By and large the marriage ceremony is the same in its procedure and performance although here and there minor variations among certain castes are observed. One very important social aspect which is now generally accepted is that the *baraat*

does not stay for three days as before but returns the following day. This has resulted from the pressure of economic forces which make it difficult to provide entertainment over a number of days.

In the old days *muklawā* (consummation of marriage) took place after a long time as girls were married at an early age before they attained puberty. In these days since the boy and girl are married at a fairly mature age this ceremony is performed on the day following the marriage and is termed as *patra pher*. But among Harijans, especially Dhanaks, *muklawā* is still observed as before.

**Dowry system.**—The dowry system is a social evil from which the people of the district are not immune. On June 12, 1960, a big social conference of all castes and *gotā* was held at Sisana (Rohtak tahsil) to effect reforms in marriage and other customs. The conference, which was attended by over one lakh persons, expressed views against the evil of the dowry system. But people in general were not inclined to accept reform in this matter. Even the dowry legislation of 1961 has not fully succeeded in achieving its object. Their ideas not having been reformed, people find ways and means of by-passing the law.

**Marital age.**—Early marriages were a usual feature in the district in the past. But the position seems to have changed considerably during the last two to three decades. The Child Marriage Restraint Act, popularly known as the Sarda Act, enforced from April 1, 1930, provided penalties for the celebration of marriages of male children under 18 and female children under 14 years of age. Consequently, there has been a tendency for postponing marriages beyond the age specified in the Act. The general tendency at present is for boys to marry between 18 and 20 years and for girls between 14 and 16 years. The findings of 1961 Census, however, reveal that the institution of child marriage, like that of dowry, still prevails to a certain extent despite the civil law prohibiting it.

**Widow marriage.**—*Karewā* or a widow marrying one of the brothers of her deceased husband is common among the Jats, Ahirs, Gujars and Harijans. *Karewā* is un-accompanied by ceremonies of any kind. The woman merely resumes her jewels and coloured clothes which she had ceased to wear on her husband's death.



Sometimes there is a public ceremony to give it a sanctimonious touch; generally living together is held to constitute *karewa*. The main reason for the connection within the family is to retain the control of the deceased person's land in the family. *Karewa* will not usually take place if the widow has children, unless they and their mother are very young. A widow cannot be compelled to marry according to *karewa*, sometimes she may choose to marry a person outside the family by giving up her husband's land.

In case the husband dies shortly after marriage and the girl has not lived with him or if she has no issue, she is remarried with all the usual ceremonies performed at the marriage. This is called *punar vivah* which is mostly adopted by the Aggarwals and the Brahmans among whom a brother-in-law does not generally accept his sister-in-law as his wife. During the last decade or so *karewa* has been introduced among them too.

When a woman enters into intimacy with any person without any social formalities and they begin to live together as husband and wife, it is called *kara*. Like *karewa* or *krepa*, *kara* is also not attended with any ceremony. This type of marriage is done outside the family.

A widow who does not choose to marry continues to live on the land left by her husband. In urban areas, however, widows, if they are educated, pick up some kind of paid or honorary social work if they do not wish to marry.

**Divorce.**—Though not unknown in the past, cases of divorce were rare. Instead of having recourse to a court of law, the general practice has been to leave the girl with her parents and never recall her. However, with the coming into force of the Hindu Marriage Act on May 18, 1955, some cases of divorce are being instituted in law courts as the table below shows:

Year	Cases instituted			Divorce granted	Petitions dismissed	Cases compromised	Cases pending
	Pending cases	New cases	Total				
1956	—	7	7	2	5	—	—
1957	—	13	13	4	7	2	—
1958	—	9	9	2	3	—	4

Year	Cases instituted			Divorce granted	Petitions dismissed	Cases compromised	Cases pending
	Pending cases	New cases	Total				
1959	4	14	18	3	14	—	1
1960	1	16	17	7	8	—	2
1961	2	14	16	7	1	—	8
1962	8	15	23	5	7	—	11
1963	11	4	15	2	7	6	—
1964	—	9	9	1	5	—	3
1965	3	7	10	—	6	2	2
1966	2	21	23	1	10	3	9

### Prostitution

Trafficking in women for immoral purpose does not exist, nor is there any organised gang of traffickers of women in the district. Before abolition of prostitution in 1956, there existed some organized brothels in the district.

### Position of Women

The census of 1961 showed that in addition to being fewer in numbers, the females were also not as long-lived as the males. Only 9.9 per cent of females attained the age of 50, the number in the case of males being 12.4. This was possibly due to want of proper care and maternity mortality. Their education also suffered due to lack of attention. Only 9 per cent of them were literate as against 32 per cent males, the overall percentage of literacy in the district being 21.1 per cent. Fortunately, the prejudice against the education of women is disappearing although people are still not enthusiastic about imparting higher education to their girls. This feeling is based on the view that the assistance of women is required at home and not in an office. The social atmosphere is such that it is difficult to find a suitable match for a highly educated girl in rural areas.



Women, however, take their proper share in work. They draw water from the village well, cook the morning and evening meals and even carry food to the men at work in the fields. In addition to numerous household jobs they participate nearly in all agricultural operations like hoeing, weeding and harvesting except ploughing, driving of cart and working on the well.

Purdah is still in vogue in some form. Village maidens cover their heads while daughters-in-law cover their faces when moving among the elderly persons in the house or out in the village. The position is different in urban areas, where, with the spread of education, social barriers against the employment of women are collapsing rapidly. Women are increasingly replacing men in many fields or participating with them in parallel fields of social work of many kinds including education, child welfare, community work and arts and crafts. Working women, though economically active, still occupy a subordinate position in social life but they do not observe purdah any more.

#### Rituals and Customs

As traditional rituals and customs have lost their hold on the people under the influence of modern ideas, these are practised differently in different areas. Not all the old *sanskritis* are observed. The *mundan* ceremony is still prevalent among displaced people. The dead are cremated as a rule, the only exception being *kanphara jogis* who bury their dead like Muslims and Christians. Post-cremation rites include 12-day mourning in the case of females and 13-day mourning in the case of males. The last ceremony is called *tehrannee*.

#### HOME LIFE

The home life of villagers runs on traditional lines although changes are slowly taking place in the old pattern of living in which custom played an important part.

The villages are usually built on sites which stand high above the surrounding level. If the high site was not deliberately selected as such, it has possibly resulted from the heaps of debris left by previous habitations. The village sites are usually surrounded by trees such as *neem*, *pipal*, *jel* and *jand*.

Every village has its *johar* or pool in which the rain water is collected for the use of the cattle. Often enough there are a few shady trees growing along the bank of the *johar* and a masonry



*Drawing and carrying of drinking-water from a village well*





*Chopal at Maham*



*Painting on a wall of a Chopal*

platform which serves as a meeting place. Close round the skirts of the village is some open space called *gora*, where cattle are gathered before letting them out for grazing. Every village has now circular and approach roads as a result of consolidation of holdings. The former is locally called *phirai*. The roads leading into the village are generally broad enough for carts to move along.

Most village houses are built in the same pattern. Inside the house is a courtyard which is mostly used for cattle or has mangers and stables and a place where fodder is chopped. Beyond the courtyard there is living space for the family. An average type of family has usually two separate houses, one for the residence of women and the other for cattle and men-folk and guests. The wooden pillars which were once the only support for the roofs are now usually discarded in favour of iron girders or brick or stone pillars. One may see dishes and pots, spinning wheels, baskets, receptacles of grain, etc., scattered about in comfortable confusion, while the sound of the stone corn-grinder is heard from some hidden recess. The house tops are used for drying cotton and grain and also for the women to sleep on during the hot weather. The men generally sleep in *ghers* built outside the village to protect their cattle and agricultural implements.

The village *paras* or *chopal* (rest-house) is an institution of considerable importance in the life of Rohtak villagers and serves as a community centre. Usually it is a *pukka* building made of bricks or stone and situated in the heart of the village. A few *charpoys* are at times placed in the *paras* for the benefit of the village guests. Some of the olden *chopals* have on the walls crude and stylised paintings of Lord Krishna, Lord Rama, the Pandavas, Sravan Kumar, tigers and horses, elephants and railway trains. The *chopals* built recently are made of bricks and cement and have bare walls except for a calendar or two or in some cases some framed pictures.

A note-worthy feature is that a village is divided into separately organized units or *panas*. Each *pana* has a separate *chopal*, *johar*, well and *gora*. Even the land holdings are *panavise*. Thus there may be seen in a village one, two or three *chopals*, *johars*, wells and *goras*.

#### Furniture and Utensils

In the old days except for *khats* (string cots), there was practically no furniture in a village home. Now one may see *sant* (sunh-hemp) mats, *peeras* and *moorhas* of low size, *moorhas* of large size (round stool



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type and chair type) and a folding camp chair with a cloth seat. A fine and strong bedstead made of wooden frame and netted with thin strings of *sarl* in different colours is seen almost in every house. The articles in the house include a *chakki* (corn-grinder), a *musal* or *musti* (pestle and mortar to grind grain), a *charkha* (spinning-wheel) and *belan* or *charkhi* (cotton cleaner), *theke* (tin drums) for storing grain. Earthen bins called *kothi*, *kuthla* or *kuthli* for storing grain are mostly used in the Jhajjar tahsil and by Harijans. A number of utensils, the commonest of which are *parat*, *thal*, and *thali* (trays and plates) of *kansi*, *katoris* and *katoras* (small bowls), *tokna* and *tokni* (large brass pots for water or ghee), the earthen *ghilri* for melting ghee, and cups called *bakhaura*, *belwa*, *katora* and *gadi* comprise the kitchen paraphernalia. The *tawa* (iron plate for baking bread) will be found upon the hearth. There may be other utensils as well. Both earthen and brass utensils are used for bringing water from the well, but the former is preferred for its cooling quality.

In the towns, in middle class houses, chairs and tables may also be seen. The homes of the well-to-do are better furnished and decorated in what passes for the modern style. Sofas, wardrobes, *palangs*, *moorhas*, tables and chairs of different kinds and other items of modern furniture fill the houses. The quantity of furniture is considered as a sign of wealth and taste. The paucity of furniture in an average home is partly offset by pictures and calendars. Urban influence has led even some villagers to provide themselves with tables and better type of cots, though on a modest scale.

Lately, the use of stoves of various kinds for cooking purposes has gained sufficient popularity. Utensils and decorations have undergone a change, particularly in urban areas. Side by side with copper and brass utensils, porcelain and glasswares are finding favour with the people. Stainless steel utensils being costly, are not commonly used. The use of electrical appliances like heaters and table lamps is gaining popularity even in the villages where electricity is available. Radio receivers have come to be regarded as a necessity and an increasingly large number of people both in towns and villages are using them. Battery transistor sets are found to be particularly useful in places where there is no electricity.

### Dress and Ornaments

People in general dress in a simple manner. The male dress consists of a *dhoti*, a shirt or *kurta*, a turban and a pair of shoes. A blanket, *khes* or *chaddar* is invariably used as a wrapper in winter. The turban

(*khandwa*) is tied in a different style by the Jat, Ahir and Rajput. A full set of woman's clothes is called *teel*. There is a marked difference in the dress of Jat, Ahir and Rajput woman. A Jat woman wears a *ghagari* (usually red or black) and a shirt (exactly resembling a man's shirt with collar and cuffs), and a printed *orhni* (about  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$  metres) covering her knotted hair. Yellow colour is not to her liking. The *ghagari* does not fall below the calves. Sartorial changes have started taking place. The *salwar* and *jumper* are being adopted by the young girls, and the grown-ups too have started preferring the *salwar* to the *ghagari*<sup>1</sup>. It has not been possible for the conservative illiterate women to dispense with the *orhni* owing to the prevalence of purdah system, but the educated ones now use *chunni* or *dupatta* of voile, georgette, etc. Social change is thus reflected in the dress which contrasts with the traditional wear.

The Ahir woman may always be recognised by her *lehnga* or petticoat, *angia* or *angi* (*choli*, blouse) and *orhni*. Her *orhni* is broader than that of a Jatni since she employs it also to cover her abdomen. It is usually red or yellow and is decorated with bosses and fringes of silver with a fall. The dress of a Rajput woman is similar to that of an Ahir woman except for her *orhni* which is usually plain and of white colour with silver fringes but without a fall. The *dhottis* and *saris* are the favourite items of dress among Brahman and Aggarwal women.

The woman's attire is usually of three types for different purposes, one while working in the fields, the other suited for working at the *chakki*, *sanni* (fodder chopping), cow dung and other miscellaneous work, and the third for *panghat*. A woman dresses her best when she visits the *panghat* for bringing water. This is the place where the ostentatious part of her dress is displayed, because here the status of the family is recognised from the display of the clothes. However, a woman whose husband is away on business, service, etc., generally does not dress herself in gaudy clothes and ornaments, but prefers simple attire.

Men do not wear jewellery. A gold ring may be seen worn by the urbanites. The ornaments worn by the women are usually made of gold and silver. They include *jaumala*, *kanthimala*, *kanthi* and *galsari* made of gold; *haar* (necklace) and *hansti* made of silver; and *jhalra* (long

1. *Ghagari* was generally made of twenty to thirty yards of thick printed cloth. The use of more cloth for *Ghagari* was considered to be a sign of richness, so much so that fifty two yards was folded into a *ghagari* which is borne out by the first line of a folk-song running thus :

"Bawan gar ki lehar swai"

Modern *ghagari* has very much shrunk in size.



hanging string of gold mohars or silver rupees); these are worn around the neck. *Karan phul* and *bujani* of gold, and *dande* of silver are for the ears while there is a variety of finger-rings, plain and ornamented, with different names for each. The large nose-ring is called *nath*. It is worn only after marriage; till then the hole is kept open by a plain ring or a *dandi* (wad). Several ornaments like *kari* (anklet), *chhalkara* and *neori* and *pai* are worn on the legs by Ahir and Jat women but not by Rajput women. *Tops* and *balian* for the ears, *churis* (particularly ivory bangles in the case of Rajput women) for the wrists and *pandels* for the neck are some of the new type of ornaments which have come into vogue after the influx of displaced persons. On the whole the use of ornaments is on the decline save on special occasions.

### Food

The diet of the people is simple and lacks variety. It comprises three meals. The morning meal consists of *lassi* (butter-milk) and *rotis* (chapatis), made from wheat and *besan* (gram flour) in canal areas, barley and gram flour in the *Bangar* and maize flour in the *Khadar*. The lunch menu includes *rotis* and one dish of vegetables or pulses or *kari* (prepared from gram flour). The evening meal varies according to the seasons. Milk and *rotis* (made of wheat, maize or bajra) along with *raabri* are taken in summer. *Raabri* is a special dish of the area prepared by fermenting flour in butter-milk before cooking it. *Dalia* (porridge of broken wheat) is eaten in the rainy season, and *kheechri* (a porridge of *bajra* and *moth* or *moong*) in winter. The use of vegetable oils, instead of *ghee*, for cooking purposes has become very common.

Tea drinking has become popular with all classes of people. Tea stalls in towns and big villages are fast becoming centres of social gossip. People prefer cold drinks or sherbet in the summer season in addition to *lassi*, prepared from curd.

Before the Partition there were no eating houses even in the bigger towns of Haryana. The parsimonious villager used to bring his *sattu*<sup>1</sup>, parched gram and *roti* with him on his visit to the town unless he had friends in whose houses he could eat. Since the influx of displaced persons, *dhabas*, *tandoors*, hotels and restaurants have sprung up and become quite popular. Previously only a few who had served in the army ate meat and took strong drinks, but since 1947 butchers shops have sprung up in towns to meet the demand for non-vegetarian diet on the part of young villagers who have begun to eat in *dhabas* on their visits to the town.

1. Flour of barley, gram, etc.

The men-folk are much addicted to the use of tobacco, but the women do not touch it.

### COMMUNITY LIFE

As everywhere else, community life is somewhat more effectively organized in villages than in towns. A growing town cannot claim to be the nucleus of a single community. Its various social and economic groups are more exclusive than inclusive. They do not come into such frequent contact with one another. Civic responsibilities no doubt, are applicable to all, but these are not cohesive in their nature. And this is more true of an expanding town which is sprawled over a large area. There is a growing tendency for voluntary social agencies to establish themselves in local areas or small towns and organize community life in some form or other. They also organize mass celebration of important festivals in their respective areas.

The social situation in villages is different. Big and small land-owners, agricultural labourers and other workers are not far apart from each other. The limited amenities and amusements of village life are equally shared by all of them and require their combined attention. The Community Development Programmes have given a fillip to community activities of various kinds and the *panchayats* have also become a nucleus of community activities.

### Folk Culture

Community life is also expressed through folk-songs and dances. Folk culture, reflected in the traditional folk-songs and dances is preserved by the village women. All India Radio has been giving good attention to the revival of folk culture by broadcasting 'Lok Manas' featuring programmes on Haryana. Folk-songs have a peculiar charm wherein we can feel the heart-beats of unsophisticated rural people. The large variety of seasonal songs depicting the mood of the different seasons are very popular. Take for instance the month of Sravana (July-August) which brings ecstasy in its wake. When the sky is overcast with dark clouds, young women come out of their homes and filled with ecstatic joy they sing while they swing:

O mother-in-law, the month of Sravana has set in,

Get me a seat of sandalwood for the swing.....

Teej or Haryali Teej is the main festival of Sravana, falling on Sudi 3 (third of the lunar month). By this time the rainy season starts gathering momentum replacing the scorching heat of the summer.



To celebrate this change, young girls of the countryside yearn for the approach of Teej. It is an occasion for the newly-married girls to go back to their parents to celebrate the Teej with their girl friends. The mother-in-law is approached for permission. The following lines beautifully depict a dialogue between the *bahu* (daughter-in-law) and her *sasar* (mother-in-law):—

There comes, O mother-in-law ! the month of Sravana,

Let us to our father's home proceed !

O my bride ! who the accompaniers 've come?

With whose permission you'll proceed?

To your father's home indeed !

O mother-in-law ! brother, the accompaniers 've come.

With your permission I'll proceed,

To my father's home indeed !

The mother-in-law would not object to her going but what about the field and domestic affairs? Who would do these jobs in her absence ?

Who will do the hoeing?

Who will grind the allotted grain?

Who, O my bride ! will wash my head?

And who will fry the *kasar*?

The intelligent daughter-in-law works out the problem very ably:

Elder *jeth*, O mother-in-law ! will do the hoeing,

Elder *jethi*, O mother-in-law ! will grind the allotted grain,

Barberess, O mother-in-law ! will wash your head,

The Barberess will fry the *kasar*.

There are songs connected with marriage, birth of a son and other festive occasions. Of the marriage songs, *banra* and *ghori* are important. There are religious songs and also songs that describe the exploits of the heroes of old like Alha Udal, Fatta

Jaimal, Bhura Baddal and Vir Jawahar Mal. *Ragani* forms another type which is sung when a *swang*<sup>1</sup> is staged.

Early morning when the village women go out for a bath to the village well, they enjoy group singing. They sing devotional songs in praise of Sita and Rama, Radha and Krishna, the Ganga and the Yamuna. When going to the fields or passing through the streets in groups, they sing *jakri* which is now much influenced by the film tunes. Group singing is also common at the time of *sraatia* (group spinning during the whole of a wintry night) and *dhupia* (group spinning in the fields during the whole of a sunny day in winter). Folk-dancing, an outburst of a deep emotion, usually accompanies folk-singing and conforms to its theme.

### Games and Recreations

Wrestling, *kabaddi*, *gind khuli*, *gulli danda* (tip cat, and *lhukkam lhukka* (hide and seek) are popular indigenous games in the district, the last three being usually played by children. *Gind khuli* is the indigenous version of the game of hockey, it is played with a stick and a ball made of rags and twigs. *Gulli danda* is played in a ground outside the village and in many forms. *Lhukkam lhukka* is popular among children of both sexes. Wrestling and *kabaddi* here as elsewhere in the country are very popular sports even among older people. Usually every village has an *akhara* (arena) where the young men and children go regularly for wrestling exercises. *Kabaddi* is played by two teams. The dimensions of the field, the number of players on a side and the duration of the game are undefined. Of a number of varieties in which the game is played, *Sanjivini* (reviving type) and *Amar* (all-in game) are common. A player goes to the court of the other team repeating 'kabaddi, kabaddi or kaudi, kaudi.....' in one breath. If the player after touching and encountering any player of the opposite team returns to the boundary dividing the two courts still uttering 'kaudi kaudi.....' without any break, the particular player of the opposite team is considered to be out. In *Sanjivini* when a player is out, he leaves

1. *Swang* is a form of open-air theatre and the stage is in the midst of the audience. The formalities of the drama like costumes, curtains and make-up are hardly observed. The audience sit on all the four sides whereas orchestra takes its seat in the middle of the stage. Generally the leader of the *swang* party plays the role of hero and other actors play different roles including that of females. In summer it is played late at night and continues till early hours of the morning, while it is performed at noon in winter. The mythological stories and folk-tales generally provide the themes.



the court and waits outside to be revived. The team which ousts all the players of the other team, wins. In *Amar* a player who is out does not leave the field; he continues playing and a record is kept of the points scored by each team. The team scoring more points, wins.

Regular tournaments are held to discover promising talent in national events.

Chess, cards and *chopar* are some of the indoor games which are played and enjoyed in urban as well as rural areas. Villagers playing these games in *chopal* or *hathal* are a familiar sight. Modern games like hockey, cricket, football, volleyball and basket-ball are popular among students of urban areas where there are facilities of playgrounds, while games like *kho kho*, netball, etc., are popular in girls schools (especially with limited facilities). Lately, *panchayats* and private associations have started organizing these games and holding terminal and annual tournaments. Government subsidizes the construction of playgrounds and stadia and gives grants towards coaching centres and tournaments.

Gossiping and listening to the radio, particularly with the advent of portable transistors, are common pastimes. In towns, cinemas are the most popular centres of mass recreation suiting the pocket of the rich and the poor alike and by and large are the only places of public entertainment. Recorded film songs and music are freely played on marriages and other festive occasions.

### General

As stated above, economic and professional groups and classes play an important part in social life. We have farmers' co-operatives of various kinds in villages which bring people together in pursuit of their objectives and give them opportunities of working together. This subject is treated in detail in the Chapter on 'Agriculture and Irrigation'. Since the abolition of *ala malikiyat* and *talukdari* there has been a levelling down of the higher landlord classes. This, combined with other measures of tenancy reforms and a progressive land policy have brought people together on more equal ground and the distinction between the very rich and the very poor is not so great as it was before.

In towns more than in rural areas professional groups of various kinds are organized for the defence of their interests. The lawyers,

the medical practitioners, the teachers are all inclined to think of themselves as members of their professional communities whose interests must be safeguarded in every way. The labour unions of various kinds in big and small industries also function to protect the interests of their members. The over-riding feature of these associations in urban as well as in rural areas is to strengthen the economic interests of different kinds of groups in the total life of the community.

The foregoing pages, while dealing with the population of the district, the language and dialects spoken by the people, the religions professed by them, the observance of the caste system together with important aspects of social and economic life have brought out the slow pace of change being effected under the influence of modern conditions of living. An important fact in this connection is the introduction in the district of large numbers of displaced people from areas in West Pakistan which previously had no social affinity with the people of this district. In more than one way, as explained in the foregoing text, the social, economic and cultural pattern of the urban and rural communities has been undergoing a slow but profound change as a consequence of the Partition. It is no doubt true that while the urban, and more particularly the rural people of the district, have their own distinctive Haryana culture, their way of life is generally evolving in conformity with the national rather than the regional pattern.



## CHAPTER IV

### AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

As elsewhere in the country, in Rohtak too, agriculture constitutes the main economy and most of the area fit for cultivation has been ploughed. After Independence, the district has made consistent progress in agriculture and the average yield per acre of nearly all the principal crops grown in the district can be compared favourably with that of other districts in the State. The factors favouring good produce are: a good irrigation system, application of good seeds and fertilizers, and increased use of improved and advanced agricultural practices. The district has withstood the difficulties resulting from water-logging, alkalinity, salinity and soil-erosion.

#### Land Utilisation

According to village papers, the land use classification in 1966-67 was as follows :—

Nature of land use	Area (Thousand hectares)
Land not available for cultivation	50
Other uncultivated land excluding fallow lands	39
Fallow land	25
Forests	8
Total cropped area	706

**Other uncultivated land excluding fallow lands.**—This included culturable waste, grazing land, and lands under tree groves or forests not included under the sown area. Such lands covered about 39 thousand hectares. These are declining because of extension in cultivation.

**Forests.**—Forest area in the district in 1966-67 was 8,340 hectares. It comprised 171 hectares of reserved forests, 40 hectares of protected forests of Bir Nahar, 6,508 hectares of avenue strips along P.W.D. roads, railways and canal banks in addition to 1,621 hectares of private areas closed under sections 4 and 5 of the Punjab Land Preservation Act, 1900.

**Reclamation of cultivable waste.**—More and more area has been reclaimed from cultivable waste during the last 15 years as the table below shows :

Year	Government waste land	Other waste land
	(Acres)	(Acres)
1950-51	2,338	1,62,935
1959-60	2,350	1,38,820
1965-66	2,350	45,052

Great progress was made in 1960—65 by reclaiming 93,768 acres.

The Government has been keen to press for the cultivation of every available piece of land. To achieve this object it applied the East Punjab Utilisation of Lands Act, 1949, and threatened to take away from the owners lands which they were not cultivating. The *panchayats* also have started using their land for cultivation; the large areas that still remain uncultivated are utilised by villagers for grazing their cattle. Government is encouraging the *panchayats* to bring cultivable waste under cultivation by advancing loans for the purchase of tractors and implements and for sinking of wells and tubewells. The present position according to which the *panchayats* are cultivating an area of only 13,077 acres out of the total area of 63,767 acres, available with them is likely to improve in the future.

**Water-logging.**—Water-logging is a serious problem affecting the productivity of the land which supports only some aquatic plants like grass and weeds.<sup>1</sup> The water-logged area in which the water table is only 0—5 feet is a serious problem. The water table between 5—10 feet indicates the danger zone. In the Rohtak district there has been an alarming rise in the water table during the last two decades and in areas adjoining the canals it is now between 5—10 feet. The rise of the water table leads to the appearance of *thur*<sup>2</sup> on the surface of the

1. The worst condition of water-logging appears just after rains. The observations of November are, therefore, adopted for calculation of water-logged areas.

2. It is a white or ash-coloured material consisting of harmful salts. It subsides after the rains, but the crust forming over the surface betrays its existence. *Kallar* is also classed with *thur*. There is not much to distinguish one from the other in appearance.



soil followed by *sem*<sup>1</sup>. An area of 464 acres became uncultivable by 1959 in the Gohana tahsil alone and similarly a considerable area has become unfit for cultivation in the Rohtak and Sonapat tahsils. The total area under *thur* and *sem* in 1966 was 35,458 and 440 acres respectively. The tahsilwise figures in acres are : Rohtak 5,248 and 169; Sonapat 15,335 and 8; Jhajjar 1,490 and 1; and Gohana 13,385 and 262.

The Bhindawas is the biggest of the depressions and has become a swamp as a result of water-logging.

**Soil erosion.**—It is not a serious problem in the district except in some parts of the sandy *barani* area in the Jhajjar tahsil because of the strong winds that blow during the summer. The cultivators grow *sarkanda* (a kind of reed) on the boundaries of their fields to check the action of the winds. Fortunately, in spite of the existence of sand dunes here and there, no area has so far become uncultivable on this account.

### IRRIGATION

As the Table IV of Appendix shows, nearly 45 per cent of the net area sown in the district was irrigated in 1965-66. This includes even those fields which receive artificial application of water only once in the year and depend on nature for the rest of the period. The other 55 per cent of the net sown area was entirely at the mercy of nature for a successful harvest. The variations in rainfall affect particularly the sowing and harvesting of the *kharif* crop; the success or failure of gram crop depends to a great extent on these variations. A fair amount of rainfall in the end of June or in the beginning of July leads to an all-round sowing activity, while a failure of rain in the second half of July and in August and September leads to the scorching of the crops. The Table V of Appendix shows at a glance that less area under crops failed when the rainfall was satisfactory in July and August or steady in July, August and September.

#### Irrigation Facilities

The irrigation system depends on canals and wells. The canals do not cover the whole area and even in the area so covered the intensity of irrigation is not sufficient to produce two to three crops annually, which is an essential requirement for adequate food production. So it

1. The cultivated area which owing to sub-soil moisture has become unfit for cultivation, or is so badly affected that it does not produce more than a four-anna crop, is classed as *sem*.

is necessary to tap the underground-water reservoir by sinking wells and tubewells according to suitability and depth of the water.

**Canal Irrigation.**—The Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal, the only source of canal irrigation in the district, has a long history. Dug originally during the reign of Firuz Shah to conduct water to the royal gardens at Hissar and Hansi, it incidentally irrigated the intervening tracts also. It was re-excavated in Akbar's reign to bring perennial supplies from the Yamuna and Somb into the Chautang and on to Hansi and Hissar. It was further improved in c. 1643 A. D. during the reign of Shah Jahan by Ali Mardan Khan with the object of diverting water to Delhi. The river supply was tamed about 14 miles below the present headworks of the canal and the water was led along the drainage line through Panipat and Sonapat to Delhi.

When the British took over, the discharge of the canal was 2,500 cusecs. Between 1870–1882, remodelling was done with a view to improving the drainage, securing increased control over the supply and its distribution and providing greater facilities for navigation. The discharge was increased to 5,000 cusecs in 1877. The Sirsa Branch was sanctioned in 1888 and subsequent minor extensions greatly increased the irrigation potentiality of the canal. Its discharge was augmented to 6,433 cusecs in 1891 and 9,000 cusecs in 1940–41, and presently it stands at 14,000 cusecs.

The canal takes off from the Yamuna at Tajewala headworks (Ambala district) where a very strong masonry weir is built across the river.<sup>1</sup> Between Tajewala and Dadupur the canal for the most part flows through an old river-bed. The slope is fairly steep, and the current very strong. At Dadupur there is a level crossing over the combined Pathrala and Somb torrents. From Dadupur the canal flows south in an artificial channel to Buria, below which a remarkable spur of the *Bangar* high lands forces it to make an abrupt curve to the east. During the rest of its course in the Jagadhri tahsil (Ambala district) it hugs the *Bangar* bank (the old high bank of the Yamuna) pretty closely, and flowing south-west passes below the railway bridge at Abdullapur and finally leaves the tahsil at Daurang. After about 38.19 miles below Dadupur, there is a regulator at Indri (Karnal district) with lock and escape head where the canal bifurcates into the Sirsa Branch<sup>2</sup>

1. A reference to the economic map appended to the volume will explain the course of the Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal which is described in detail in the subsequent paragraphs.

2. Sirsa Branch has a capacity of 2,800 cusecs and runs for 78.3 miles, watering the arid tract of country between Indri and Sirsa.



and the Main Branch. About 31 miles further down at Munak the Main Branch bifurcates into the Hansi and Delhi Branches, and the Gohana Distributary.

The Hansi Branch has a length of 47.6 miles and a revised full supply discharge of 4,050 cusecs. At R.D. 58,310-L in the Jind district, just above the border of Gohana tahsil, the Butana Branch takes off from the main Hansi Branch with a revised capacity of 2,715 cusecs and a length of 23.96 miles. It irrigates mostly the Rohtak district and then enters the Hissar district where it is known as the Bhiwani Sub-Branch. Sunder Sub-Branch with a head discharge of 1,140 cusecs takes off from the Butana Branch at R.D. 82,700-R and has its head-reach in the Rohtak district while the rest of it passes through the Hissar district.

The Delhi Branch has a length of 56.5 miles with a revised full supply discharge of 4,151 cusecs as per Western Jumna Canal Remodelling Project (1963). It enters the district near Dhindar (Karnal district) and proceeds southward crossing Sonapat tahsil and leaving it after Halalpur. At Khubru, the Rohtak and Bhalaut Distributaries take off westward.

The main Rohtak Canal, known as the Rohtak Distributary, which takes off from the Bhalaut Sub-Branch, flows west to Gohana, where below the town it turns south-west and flows in the old bed of the Rohtak Canal straight across the intervening villages to the town of Rohtak and its suburb, Kutanah. It throws out no minors of any importance on the way, except the Ghilaur Minor.

Side by side with the Rohtak Canal, the Bhalaut Sub-Branch with revised full supply discharge of 1,902 cusecs and a length of 31.20 miles, takes off at the same point, i.e. at R.D. 1,45,250-R of the Delhi Branch. Gradually diverging from its sister channel, it turns off south-west at Kakana and running through the Gohana villages, which it irrigates in its course to Rithal, turns south through the east of Rohtak tahsil till it reaches Bhalaut, where it turns off south-east and runs to Sampla.

The distributary system of the Delhi Branch extends all over the Rohtak district. The main distributaries are : Rohtak, Kahni, Rithal, Bohar, Bhalaut, Ismaila, Jhajjar, Bajana, Dobeta, Bhainswal, Juan, Pai, Dulehra, Ganaur, Rajpara, Sardhana, Sonapat, Harsana, Ladpur, Nabri Major, Nahri and Lampur; Jhajjar Sub-Branch and Salhawas of Rewari Lift Channel.

The eastern part of Rohtak tahsil is supplied by two channels from the Delhi Branch, viz. the Sisana Minor and the Rohna Minor, the latter including the Pal Distributary which again throws off branches to Sihoti from Kharkhanda and to Jaunti from Nilothi.

The north-east of Gohana tahsil is supplied by two minors; the western one enters at Jawahra and flows down to Mahmudpur and Mundiana while the eastern one, the Chirana Minor, supplies villages down to Khanpur and Samri. At the same time the Israna Distributary enters east of the tahsil at Kasendhi and flowing west tails off in Gohana.

During the *rabi* season, the supply of water in the Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal, gets reduced to below 2,000 cusecs. The channels of the two main branches are run in rotation, in a manner that the available water is distributed equitably over the entire canal irrigated area.

**Remodelling of Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal System.**—The supplies made available by the Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal System could not meet the demand of the area. The water allowance of the area varied from 1.9 to 2.4 cusecs per thousand acres with intensity of irrigation from 43 per cent to 50 per cent while water allowance provided for Bhakra Canal System varied from 2.25 to 3.50 cusecs and intensity of irrigation in Sirhind Canal (Bhatinda Division) was 88 per cent. The Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal tract, as such, called for additional supplies to improve irrigation. Accordingly, a project under the name Western Jumna Canal Remodelling Project was framed in 1954. The additional supplies made available by the transfer of the Sirsa Branch and Hissar Major Distributary areas to the Bhakra Canal System are now utilised to replenish the shortage. The scheme of installation of 256 tubewells, described later, forms a part of this project. Most of the remodelling works envisaged in this project have been completed and the few remaining, e.g. linking of the Delhi Branch and Bhalaut Sub-Branch, etc., are expected to be completed during the Fourth Five-Year Plan.

The table given below indicates the extent to which the Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal system has been making increased water supply



to the Rohtak district :

(Area in acres)

Tahsil	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66
W.J.C.(E) Circle, Delhi						
Sonepat	38,054	48,530	57,100	52,776	51,346	66,739
Rohtak	17,295	22,772	24,049	21,391	20,252	24,693
Jhajjar	3,755	3,967	4,957	4,712	3,536	5,087
Gohana	18,744	22,187	21,106	19,232	16,882	22,277
Total :	77,848	97,456	1,07,212	98,111	92,016	1,18,796
W.J.C. (W) Circle, Rohtak						
Sonepat	8,345	10,979	12,624	11,230	12,117	13,369
Rohtak	1,07,565	1,31,883	1,53,771	1,42,052	1,39,309	1,41,285
Jhajjar	54,622	79,729	74,777	63,224	65,240	66,602
Gohana	1,34,613	1,54,923	1,93,314	1,73,434	1,58,494	1,61,518
Total :	3,05,145	3,77,514	4,34,686	3,89,940	3,75,360	3,82,774
Grand Total :	3,82,993	4,74,970	5,41,898	4,88,051	4,67,376	5,01,570

The other schemes promoted for the benefit of the Rohtak district include the Rewari Lift Irrigation Scheme, already under execution, and the Nahar and Salhawas Lift Scheme, proposed to be taken up during the Fourth Five-Year Plan.

**Well Irrigation.**—It is possible in areas where sub-soil water is sweet and available in plenty. The quantity of underground water depends on many factors such as rainfall, depth of water-table in the area, type of underground strata and its nearness to a natural stream. Its quality of salinity or sweetness depends upon the type of salts in the clay underneath.

The Rohtak district can be divided into sweet and brackish water belts. The sweet water belt lies along the Yamuna in the Sonepat tahsil and comprises mostly the areas lying between the Delhi Branch and the Yamuna, although the water is brackish in some villages even along the Delhi Branch near the boundary of the district with Delhi. The lowlying area between the Grand Trunk Road and the Yamuna is called the *Khadar* area. It is the old bed of the Yamuna. Due to

river action in the past, all the salts in the clay have been washed away, the water in the area is sweet and is available in plenty at shallow depths ranging from 4' to 15'.

Due to its great distance from the hills, the alluvial of the district is mostly formed of fine clay with the result that the major part of the district comprising the western part of the Sonapat tahsil, and the Gohana, Rohtak and Jhajjar tahsils, falls in the brackish water belt with the exception of some sandy patches where the water is sweet. The underground water in most parts of this area is saline. In some wells the sub-soil water-level has risen and become sweet on account of the flow of irrigation channels near by. Although at some other places, the water is less brackish for a similar reason and can be used for cultivation, in general it is brackish and not fit for cultivation. In the brackish areas, most of the drinking-water wells are located near ponds where pond water seeps into the wells and gives a supply of sweet drinking-water. In the heat of May and June when the ponds dry up and cannot be filled with the canal water, the wells again turn brackish. The sub-soil water in the Gohana and Rohtak tahsils is brackish but in the Jhajjar tahsil towards the boundary of Gurgaon and Mahendragarh districts some patches of sweet water are found. In some of the villages in Sonapat tahsil it so happens that the upper layer of water is brackish while the lower layers are sweet. This is most probably due to the effect of the Yamuna in the lower layers.

The pattern of sub-soil water and the underground strata of the whole district are clearly very variable, the sub-soil water depth varying from 4' to 60' and the quality of water varying from brackish to sweet. The quality of water and underground strata cannot be predicted in any area unless the water is tested through trial bores.

The following table gives the number of wells (tubewells and other wells) existing in the district despite these variabilities :—

I. Tubewells used for irrigation purposes	482
(i) Government	67
(ii) Private	415
II. Wells used for irrigation purposes	14,631
(a) Government	—



(b) Private	14,631
(i) Masonry	12,338
(ii) Non-masonry	2,293
III. Wells used for domestic purposes only	3,276
IV. Wells not in use	2,632

The various devices used for lifting water in the district generally depend on the depth of the sub-soil water and are described below:

*Dhenkli*.—The favourite lever contrivance for raising water with manual labour is known as *dhenkli*. It is not a very popular device and is mainly practised in the southern Dhari tract of Jhajjar and that too only in years of drought. The water is lifted by means of a bucket suspended by a long rope, tied to one end of a long wooden bar. The bar is pivoted on a perpendicular post to form a sort of seesaw. The height of the post depends on the depth of the water. The bar is not pivoted at the centre in order to make one portion short. There is also adjustment to allow the bar to revolve on a vertical plane for emptying water from the bucket into the water channel. The short end of the bar is weighted so as nearly to counter-balance the weight of the long arm and bucket full of water. The bucket is lowered by the man in charge who draws the long end of the lever by a pull at the rope. This method is normally used for a lift of about 15 feet or less.

*Charas or Mot*.—This consists of a large leather bag (*charas*) holding 30 to 40 gallons of water, fastened to one end of a rope which passes over a small strong wheel (*bhaun* or *chak*) fixed over the well. When the bag has been lowered, the other end of the rope is attached to the yoke of a pair of bullocks who then walk down a ramp of a length approximately equal to the depth of the well. The driver sits on the rope near the yoke to keep it in position. By the time the bullocks arrive at the end of the ramp, the bag has been drawn up to the top of the well, and its water is emptied into a cistern, generally by a man who stands by, but sometimes by a mechanical arrangement. The rope is then detached from the bullocks, the bag is lowered again and the bullocks return by a less steep incline parallel to it, and the operation is re-commenced. This slow and time-consuming process of irrigation was extensively used in the Jhajjar tahsil. Although gradually diminishing, it is still in use in parts of Nahar and Salhawas blocks.



*Chards or Mot*



*Rahat, Well-pour or Persian Wheel*



*Rahat*, Well-gear or the Persian wheel.—The alternative to the *charas* is the *rahat* or Persian wheel which consists of a continuous chain of buckets, passing over a vertical wheel fixed over the top of the well and rotated by means of a wooden or an iron gear which is worked by a pair of bullocks or a camel walking round a circular track called *perd*. The *rahat* is used throughout the district except in the *Khadar* area of the Sonapat tahsil.

**Well-sinking scheme.**—In the effort to increase irrigation facilities in every way, the Government advanced *taccavi* loans to cultivators, up to Rs. 2,000 and up to Rs. 500 per well for sinking a new well and for repairing an old one respectively. Allied facilities to obtain cement and bricks were also made available. The following table shows the progress of this scheme during 1962-63 to 1966-67 :—

Year	New wells sunk		Old wells repaired	
	At private expense	From <i>taccavi</i> advance	At private expense	From <i>taccavi</i> advance
1962-63	10	62	8	3
1963-64	45	105	13	8
1964-65	21	91	19	23
1965-66	19	139	27	21
1966-67	17	154	18	4

**Tubewells.**—As against ordinary wells tubewells tap deeper layers of underground water. The following table which makes an interesting study shows how useful it is to install tubewells for larger supplies of water :—

Well irrigation device	Approximate cost	Area irrigated
	(Rs.)	(Acres)
Pukka open well	2,500 to 3,000	5 to 15
Well with pumping set	Cost of well plus 3,500	25 to 30
Private tubewell	5,000 to 6,000	30 to 60
Government tubewell	50,000 to 60,000	300 to 500



The installation of tubewells, however, depends on the provision of electrical energy which is cheaper than diesel oil. Secondly, tubewells are more usefully installed along the Yamuna in the Sonapat tahsil as the under ground water in this area is sweet. Thirty-five tubewells were installed in this area in 1956-57 under the Indo-U.S. Technical Co-operation Mission Programme of 1952 and these cover a total area of 14,000 acres. The following table shows the area irrigated by Government tubewells during 1960-61 to 1965-66 :—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Area irrigated (Acres)</u>
1960-61	7,605
1961-62	6,308
1962-63	6,130
1963-64	3,517
1964-65	4,070
1965-66	5,752
1966-67	6,612

In addition to these, 256 tubewells of 2 cusecs each were installed under Jagadhri Tubewell Project. Barring 4 tubewells the rest work for 22 hours daily, the available discharge per hour being 462 cusecs. These tubewells were designed to augment the supplies of the Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal and to serve as an anti-water-logging measure.

**Pumping Lift Scheme.**—There are some areas lying at the tail end of the Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal System which are not commandable by flow. Pumping stations of low lifts have been provided to command these local areas. These are : Kahnaur Distributary (Extension), Pilana Minor Lift Channel, Sikander Pur Minor and Jahangir Pur Minor.

## AGRICULTURE INCLUDING HORTICULTURE

### Soils

The success of agriculture depends to a great extent on the richness of soil which is a basic factor of production. In the Rohtak district the soils are quite suitable for the kind of crops grown

here. These may be classified according to their texture as (i) Sandy (*teeba* or *ratli*), (ii) Sandy loam (*bhur*), (iii) Loam (*rausli*), (iv) Clay loam (*kardi*) and (v) Clay (*dakar* or *cheekni*).

The main soil of the district, a good light-coloured alluvial loam<sup>1</sup>, which with sufficient moisture yields splendid crops in return for little labour, is termed *rausli*, the light sands of the ridges are called *teeba*, soils with light texture are termed as *bhur* while the two clayey soils distinguished according to their tenacity are called *kardi* and *dakar*, the latter splitting into fissures after irrigation. The clay soils exist only in depressions to which the greater part of their argillaceous matter has been washed by rain from the surrounding higher lands, and are generally found along the drainage lines or in the naturally flooded (*dahri*) depressions of Jhajjar.

The soil of the district with regard to its reaction may be classified as (1) natural or normal (pH 7 to 8), (2) saline or *rehl* (pH 8 to 8.5) and (3) alkaline (pH 8.5 to 10).

### Crops

There are two well-defined crops, *khari* and *rabi*. The major *khari* crops (locally called *samnu*) are sugarcane, cotton, *jowar*, *bajra*, rice, maize and *gwara* (locally called *guar*) while the minor ones or subsidiary crops are chillies, pulses (*moong*, *mash*, *moth*), vegetables, *till*, *san*, *patsan*, groundnut and fruits to some extent. The major *rabi* crops (locally called *sadhru*) are wheat, gram, barley and oil-seeds (*sarson*, *taramira*—locally called *tira*, *alsi*, *toria*), while the minor ones or subsidiary crops are *berseem*, *lucerne*, *methi*, tobacco, potatoes and vegetables.

Tobacco, potatoes, onions, chillies, oil-seeds, cotton and sugarcane in villages and vegetables grown around towns are the main cash crops of the district. During the last few years the crop of chillies has suffered heavily on account of excessive rains and floods and diseases.

**Rotation of crops.**—The cultivators of the district have long been aware of the advantages of crop rotation. The general rotation of

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1. The physical and chemical characteristics of loam soil which represents the major part of the Rohtak district were analysed at the Government Agricultural Farm, Rohtak, and are given in Table VI of Appendix.



crops followed by the farmers in canal irrigated, well irrigated and *barani* areas is as follows :—

#### Canal irrigated

sugarcane—sugarcane—sugarcane—cotton/paddy/*bajra*/*cheri*, wheat—*gwara*

*bajra*—wheat or gram and *sarson*

paddy—wheat or gram or wheat and gram

*jowar*—gram

cotton—wheat—*gwara*—wheat

*gwara* (for fodder or grain)—sugarcane

#### Well irrigated

maize—wheat—fodder

chillies—wheat or onion

*gwara* fodder—paddy—onion or vegetables

#### Barani areas

*jowar* or *bajra* or *gwara*—gram and *sarson*

*jowar* or *bajra* or *gwara*—gram or barley and *sarson*

*jowar* or *bajra* or *gwara*—fallow

In sandy areas, mostly of the Jhajjar tahsil, wheat is generally replaced by barley which is more suitable for sowing under brackish water conditions.

Table VII of Appendix gives details about the sowing and harvesting of *kharif* and *rabi* crops; Table VIII shows the area under the principal crops; Table IX the yield per hectare and Table X the production of principal crops from 1961-62 onwards. These Tables show broadly that in the case of wheat and sugarcane, the yield per acre has increased over a period of five years as a consequence of improved methods of cultivation. In the case of gram while the area under cultivation has dropped a little the yield per acre has dropped disproportionately.

#### Food crops

*Bajra*.—This is the principal *kharif* foodgrain crop and is generally grown throughout the district. The extent of its cultivation is dependent on timely monsoon and varies from 1,25,000 acres to 3,75,000 acres.

During the years of timely rainfall, it is sown extensively in the Jhajjar tahsil, and in parts of the Rohtak and Gohana tahsils where the supply of canal water is less and irrigation from wells is also not available.

**Maize.**—It is chiefly grown in the Sonapat tahsil and near the towns for selling in the market as cobs. The new variety of hybrid maize has been introduced recently and is becoming quite popular with the farmers.

**Rice.**—It is mostly grown in the water-logged areas of the Rohtak, Gohana and Sonapat tahsils. *Jhona* 349 is grown in soil of average quality and *Basmati* 370, which is a fine variety, is grown in rich soil where a plentiful supply of water is available.

**Wheat.**—This principal *rabi* foodgrain crop of the district is sown throughout the district. Its cultivation is more extensive where a greater supply of canal and well water is available.

**Gram.**—This is also a *rabi* foodgrain crop and is mostly sown in the *barani* areas of Jhajjar, and in parts of the Rohtak and Gohana tahsils. It is generally sown after harvesting *jowar* and *bajra* if some moisture is still available in the land.

**Barley.**—This *rabi* foodgrain crop is grown in light soil mostly in a part of the Jhajjar tahsil.

### Cash Crops

**Sugarcane.**—Sugarcane is grown mainly in irrigated areas on an increasing scale owing to the installation of a sugar factory at Rohtak. Greater emphasis is being laid on both early and late varieties in order to extend the factory working season.

**Cotton.**—The American H-14 variety of cotton is generally grown in the canal irrigated areas as it ripens early and the land vacated by this crop can then be used for sowing gram or wheat.

**Chillies.**—Chillies are sown in the *Khadar* area of the Sonapat tahsil where sufficient well irrigation is available.

**Oil-seeds.**—*Sarson*, *toria* and *taramira* (*tira*) are the main oil-seed crops of the district. *Sarson* is generally sown as a pure crop or in rows with gram in *barani* areas and in rows in wheat in irrigated areas.



*Taramira* is generally sown as a pure crop mostly in poor land and also in rows in gram fields. *Toria*, however, is grown only in irrigated areas. Linseed is a minor oil-seed crop.

The total area under oil-seed crops during 1960-61 was: *sarson*, 2,117 acres; *torla*, 207 acres; *taramira*, 3,265 acres; and linseed, 207 acres. Similar figures for 1965-66 are: *sarson*, 26,000 acres; *torla*, 2,000 acres; *taramira*, 1,575 acres; and linseed, 450 acres. These oil-seed crops are mostly sown in the *barani* tract of the Jhajjar tahsil as also in parts of the Rohtak, Sonapat and Gohana tahsils as the agro-climatic conditions of that area are suitable for their growth.

#### Area under fodder crops

The main fodder crops in the district during *kharif* are *jowar* and *gwara*. When fed green, *jowar* is called *chari* and when harvested after ripening and turned into hay, it is called *karb* or *kurbi*. Generally *jowar* is not sown for grain. If seed setting takes place then the grain is taken. The *gwara* crop is sown both for green fodder and also for getting grain to be used for bullocks. Table XI of Appendix shows the area under different fodder crops. It is clear from it that the acreage under *berseem*, *lucerne* and other fodder crops has increased considerably during the 1956-66 decade.

The village common lands in the district amounting to 63,767 acres in 1959-60 spared a small area of 13,077 for cultivation. Since then more and more area is being brought under cultivation. The grazing area has come down from 50,690 acres in 1959-60 to 30,570 in 1965-66.

#### Fruits

The area under fruit trees is only about 2,500 acres which is hardly 0.2 per cent of the total cultivated area. In terms of population the ratio is 470 people to 1 acre of garden area as against 75 people to 1 acre in India as a whole. This inadequacy is mainly due to small holdings, lack of irrigation facilities, unfavourable climatic conditions, low rainfall and brackish sub-soil water.

To encourage fruit cultivation, Government in the year 1940 started to give enhanced canal water supply to the extent of 0.5 per cent of the total cultivable area commanded by any channel. About 160 old and new gardens, occupying an area of 353 acres, are enjoying this concession to the fullest extent, though the water-supply is not regular.

Three garden colony co-operative societies were established in 1950 in Panchi Gajran (Sonapat tahsil), Lahli and Kharkhauda (Rohtak tahsil). The area under plantations in these colonies steadily increased from 400 acres to 1,300 acres in 1961-62. No further addition could be made due to the problem of water-logging. The fruit trees that receive prominence in these garden colonies are *malta* (35 per cent), mango (30 per cent), *kaghzi* lime (15 per cent), sweet lime (5 per cent), guava (5 per cent) and others (10 per cent).<sup>1</sup>

Interest in developing fruit gardens has increased with the encouragement by the Government. As a consequence, the number of model gardens increased from 15 with an area of 36 acres in 1961-62 to 25 with a total area of 55 acres in 1965-66.

The percentage of different fruits in old gardens is *ber* 42 per cent, *anar* (pomegranate) 18 per cent, *amrud* (guava) 15 per cent, citrus 10 per cent, mango 5 per cent and other fruits 10 per cent. The proposal to change the picture completely in the new plantations is apparent in the scheme recommended for the Rohtak district. In new gardens the percentage of fruit trees is: *malta* 50 per cent, sweet lime 10 per cent, *kaghzi* lime 10 per cent, mango 10 per cent and other fruits such as guava, pomegranate, grapes, *ber*, etc., 20 per cent. The table below gives the yield and income per acre in respect of the fruits grown commercially and the average gross income per acre :

Fruits	Average yield per tree	Average gross income per acre
		(Rs.)
<i>Malta</i> —Orange	250 to 300 fruit	1,000 to 1,200
Sweet lime	200 fruit	750
<i>Kaghzi</i> lime	33 kg	1,000
Mango	40 to 80 kg	1,000 to 1,200
<i>Amrud</i> (guava)	40 to 60 kg	500 to 600
<i>Anar</i> (pomegranate)	40 to 100 kg	750
Grape	40 to 80 kg	1,500 to 2,000
<i>Ber</i>	75 to 100 kg	500

1. Also see pages 337-38 of Chapter on 'Rehabilitation'.



There are two planting seasons, viz. spring (February and March) and monsoon (July to October), for evergreen plants like *malta*, sweet lime, *kaghzi* lime, mango, guava, and *ber*, while the planting of deciduous plants like pomegranate, grape, *phalsa*, etc., is done in January-February when they are in a dormant stage and can be lifted and planted without earth ball.

There is no Government nursery for the supply of fruit plants in the district. A private nursery is functioning at Kharkhauda Garden Colony. The supply of fruit plants is also met from the Government as well as private licensed nurseries at Hansi, Karnal, Panipat and Jind in the neighbouring districts.

#### Promotion of Scientific Agriculture through Administrative Machinery

Apart from land and irrigation, the agricultural operations depend on many resources which must be scientifically exploited in the face of growing need of foodgrains. Scientific agriculture today requires knowledge of various kinds based on the application of fundamental research to local conditions. It is the responsibility of the State to make this knowledge available, to encourage its understanding and to provide financial and other facilities to cultivators who are keen to use scientific methods in their cultivation to a limited extent. Any notable achievement in this direction on the part of Government as well as the cultivators will be revolutionary in character because so far the Indian cultivator has been tradition-bound. Today, agriculture has assumed national importance, as India, like other countries, cannot hope to feed its growing millions without developing the means to produce enough food for all her people. We, therefore, find the State involved on many fronts in an effort to improve all the factors of scientific agriculture. To this end, Government has been spending large sums of money to achieve self-sufficiency in food production so that India may not have to go on buying large quantities of food from other countries.

This effort on the part of Government can be studied usefully if we first keep in view the administrative machinery which has been developed to meet the new demands.

The district falls under the Agricultural Circle, Rohtak and is under the charge of a Deputy Director of Agriculture provided under High-yielding Varieties Programme which covers the entire district as a unit. He is assisted by the District Agricultural Officer, Assistant Sugarcane Development Officer and Seed Development Officer. In addition, one Assistant Agricultural Engineer is also being provided to

look after agricultural machinery and implements and boring of wells in the district.

The different Agricultural Inspectors carry out the work of agricultural production on the lines laid down by the Department of Agriculture. They educate the farmers in matters relating to improved seeds, manures and fertilizers, agricultural implements, plant protection, horticulture and scientific agricultural practices by laying out demonstration plots.

The administrative machinery not only provides knowledge and practical demonstration but also administers financial and other help under various heads as provided by the State. Let us now review the position in respect of the various factors of scientific agriculture.

**Agricultural Implements.**—Implements of the old type still in common use are listed below :

<i>hal</i> (plough)	<i>jua</i> (yoke)	<i>malj</i> or <i>sohaga</i> (flat clod-crusher)
<i>ghirri</i> or <i>kothu</i> (round-clod-crusher)	<i>dranti</i> (sickle)	<i>gan-dasi</i> (long handled chopper used for cutting sugarcane, cotton sticks and bushes)
<i>kuhari</i> (hatchet)	<i>phala</i> or <i>kassi</i> (large mattock-spade)	<i>khurpa</i> or <i>ramba</i> (grass spud)
<i>dikri</i> or <i>lindraja</i> (drag rake dragged by men for levelling high land)	<i>gori</i> or <i>karaha</i> (a <i>dikri</i> like implement, but dragged by bullocks)	<i>kasola</i> (large mattock for weeding and hoeing)
<i>kasoli</i> (smaller mattock for weeding and hoeing)	<i>tangli</i> or <i>jell-dasang</i> (two-pronged fork)	<i>tangli</i> or <i>jell-chausang</i> (four-pronged fork)
<i>tangli</i> or <i>jell-chhalsang</i> (six-pronged fork)	<i>santa</i> (ox goad)	<i>ekhaj</i> (winnowing basket)
<i>gharauchi</i> (stand to prop a cart when out of use)	<i>belan</i> (hand ginning mill, also sugar-press)	<i>baguri</i> (small <i>khurpa</i> like implement; used for hoeing of sugarcane at the time of the first and the second hoeing)



<i>pore</i> or <i>orna</i> (seed drilling tube)	<i>datrali</i> or <i>Jandra</i> (used for <i>wat bandi</i> in the irrigated areas)	<i>gandasa</i> (fodder cutter)
<i>rahat</i> (Persian wheel; used where water table is not low)	<i>tipaya</i> (used while winnowing wheat, etc.)	<i>gadi</i> (cart)

Improved implements are being gradually adopted by the farmers in accordance with their utility. The average size of a cultivated holding in the district at present being  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres the scope of mechanised type of farming is limited. However, due to the scarcity of labour and the resulting high wages, the spread of education among the cultivators and their improved economic condition as a result of high prices of agricultural commodities, the well-to-do farmers are taking to improved agricultural implements like iron ploughs (Haryana plough), cotton drill, bar harrow, *tirphali*, etc. The tractors are also in great demand both for agricultural operations and for transporting agricultural produce. The following figures clearly indicate progress towards more advanced implements :—

Particulars	Total number	
	1956	1965
Ploughs—		
(i) Wooden	79,597	2,12,000
(ii) Iron	996	26,000
Sugarcane-crushers	6,333	3,700
Tractors	51	1,373
Carts	46,487	13,000
Ghanis (Oil expellers)	114	600

**Seeds.**—Good seed is the basis of successful agriculture. The Agriculture Department, rightly pays much attention to ensure the multiplication and supply of seed of improved varieties. The Government Agricultural

Demonstration Farm at Rohtak, and six seed farms in different blocks where improved seeds are grown for local distribution are working to this end. A few details of these farms are given in Table XII of Appendix. The better yielding varieties of seeds recommended for this district are as under:

*Rabi—*

Wheat	.. PV-18, Kalyan 227, Sonalika, C 281 and C 306
Barley	.. C 138 and C 164
Gram	.. S 26, G 24, Pb. 7 and C 104 ( <i>Kabli</i> )

*Sarson—*

Brown	.. Haryana
Yellow	.. Pb. 24
Banga (Raya)	.. RL 18
<i>Taramra (tir)</i>	.. Improved Selection A
Linseed	.. K 2
Lentil	.. No. 9—12

*Fodders—*

<i>Berseem</i>	.. Mescavi
Lucerne	.. No. 9
Oats	.. Brimker 10, Watson 11 and Algerian
<i>Senji</i>	.. FOS—1

*Kharif—*

*Maize—*

Hybrid	.. Ganga 101, Ganga 3 and Ganga 5
Composite	.. Vijay
Rice	.. <i>Jhona</i> 20, <i>Jhona</i> 277, <i>Jhona</i> 349, <i>Jhona</i> 351, Palman 246, <i>Batmail</i> 217 and IR 8
<i>Bajra</i>	.. T 55, A $\frac{1}{2}$ , S 530 and Hybrid <i>Bajra</i> No. 1
Cotton	.. H 14 (American), 231 R and G 27 ( <i>Desi</i> )



## Sugarcane—

Early	.. Co. L 29
Mid-season	.. Co. L 9
Late	.. Co. J 39, Co. J 46 and Co. 1148

Groundnut .. Pb. No. 1 and C 501

Til .. Pb. No. 1

Soyabean .. Pb. No. 1

Castor .. Pb. No. 1

## Pulses—

*Moong* .. No. 54 and No. 305

*Mash* .. 48 and 1—1

*Moth* .. Type No. 3

## Fodders—

Sorghum (*Jowar*) .. J.S. 20, J.S. 263

Cowpeas (*Chole*) .. No 10, FOS No. 1

*Gwara* .. No. 2

The district is notified under the East Punjab Improved Seeds and Seedlings Act, 1949 under which it is an offence to sow varieties of seeds, particularly of wheat and cotton, other than those on the approved list of the State Agriculture Department. The defaulters are liable to a fine which may extend up to Rs. 100.

The table below shows the progressive increase in seeds distributed from year to year for meeting the increasing demand of farmers during 1961-62 to 1965-66 :

Year	Agricultural seeds distributed (metric tonnes)	Area under improved varieties (thousand hectares)
1961-62	280.4	302
1962-63	358.5	288
1963-64	501.3	325
1964-65	1,010.3	332
1965-66	1,196.9	359

**Manures and fertilisers.**—It is a well recognised fact that different crops, while growing, remove various plant nutrients in substantial quantities from the soil. The continued deterioration of the plant food elements from soil leads to low soil fertility and lower agricultural yields. It is, therefore, essential that plant nutrients are replenished through the increased use of manures and fertilizers so that crops continue to give good yields.

**Compost manure.**—Farm yard manure or cattle dung manure is an all-round good measure for the maintenance and improving of the soil fertility. However, the farmyard manure commonly used by the cultivators is poor both in quality and quantity. This is largely due to faulty method of its preparation and incomplete utilisation of the useful ingredients contained in cattle dung. In the context of emphasis on high yielding varieties programme, it has been inevitable that larger quantities of good quality manure are produced in the villages and Department of Agriculture is making all-out efforts in this respect. For this reason, the entire district has been notified under the East Punjab Conservation of Manure Act, 1949, whereunder the farmers are required to conserve the cattle dung and other vegetative wastes in pits of proper dimensions.

Another important source from which large quantity of good quality manure could be obtained is in the refuse of urban areas. Almost all the municipalities in the district have taken up the work of composting of urban wastes.

**Green manuring.**—This is very important for soil fertility as it directly adds nitrogen to the soil. Experiments have revealed that an increase of about one quintal of foodgrains per acre has resulted through green manuring. It also improves the soil texture by the addition of humus or organic matter. The addition of organic matter improves both heavy and sandy soils for it has a binding effect on the loose particles of sandy soil and makes the tough and heavy soil less heavy. The water-holding capacity of the soil is also increased. Further, it creates better conditions for the increase of useful bacteria in the soil. In the Rohtak district only *gwara* and not sunn-hemp leguminous crop is used as green manuring. Government encourages green manuring by way of remission of the water rate if *gwara* is sown before the 15th September.

The following table indicating area under green manuring crops during 1961-62 to 1965-66 shows that the cultivators are realising the usefulness



of green manuring :—

Year	Area under green manuring (Acres)
1961-62	12,527
1962-63	39,712
196-64	41,500
1964-65	45,700
1965-66	42,015

**Chemical fertilizers.**—The soils in the district are alkaline in nature and poor in organic matter and nitrogen. So apart from green manuring, chemical fertilizers are also very essential for increasing the crop yields.

Following a large number of field demonstrations, cultivators here are now becoming keen to use fertilizers. *Taccari* loans are given for purchase of fertilizers and their supply is arranged by the Government at controlled rates. The District Wholesale Co-operative Society distributes these to the various depot-holders on cash payment as well as on credit. In 1965-66 there were 363 depots functioning in the district. The following data regarding the distribution of chemical fertilizers shows that the use of chemical fertilizers is becoming increasingly popular :—

Year	Chemical fertilizers distributed (metric tonnes)		
	Nitro- genous	Phos- phatic	Potash
1961-62	3,643	82	—
1962-63	3,258	138	—
1963-64	7,384	304	—
1964-65	12,279	299	—
1965-66	11,776	305	27
1966-67	8,800	394	24

### Agricultural Co-operatives

The agriculturist stands in need of help of various kinds during the course of his multiple operations. If he can obtain short, medium or long term credit when required, improved implements, adequate quantity of fertilizers, improved seeds, insecticides, pesticides, irrigation facilities and facilities for storage and marketing of his agricultural produce, he can get the best out of his efforts. It is only through agricultural co-operatives that he can get all these facilities in time and in a reasonable manner. If he goes a step further to engage in co-operative farming, his scanty resources can be pooled with those of other farmers in order to bring all the participants the gains of large-scale intensive farming.

The total number of co-operative societies of all types excluding industrial co-operatives, at the end of June 1967, was 1,540 with a membership of 1.25 lakhs. All the 761 inhabited villages were covered by one or the other type of co-operative activity.

There were, at the end of June 1967, 960 agricultural credit service societies with a total membership of 76,721 to meet fertilizer and consumer goods requirements. These societies also advanced short and medium term loans. A network of 422 sub-depots in the district distributed fertilizers and other consumer goods.

The Rohtak Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Rohtak, is a central agency for advancing short and medium term credit to co-operatives. The long term credit requirements in respect of sinking of tubewells, purchase of tractors, purchase of land, etc., are met with by the Primary Land Mortgage Bank, Rohtak.

Besides there were 63 farming societies in the district with a membership of 2,669. These owned 19 tractors, installed 15 tubewells and raised produce worth Rs. 6.08 lakhs from 4,960 acres of land on which they operated. Other agricultural co-operatives in the field include co-operative marketing societies, garden colony societies, irrigation societies, dairy and milk supply societies, cattle breeding societies, fishermen's societies, piggery societies, better farming societies, veterinary societies, etc. The co-operative marketing societies are dealt with in detail in the Chapter on 'Banking, Trade and Commerce'. Other societies in agriculture or allied fields in 1966-67, were:

Society	Number	Member-ship
Irrigation Society	1	14
Milk Supply Societies	47	1,036
Other Agricultural Societies	39	1,545



### State Assistance to Agriculture

It comprises subsidies, *taccari* loans and other loans advanced to the agriculturists. The loans thus advanced during the period 1961-62 to 1965-66 detailed in Table XIII of Appendix show that the total loans of all kinds advanced in 1965-66 amounted to Rs. 47,82,004 against Rs. 44,28,984 in 1961-62.

### Pests and Diseases

Growing crops are occasionally exposed to damage from an immense variety of diseases and pests, the following being the most prominent ones:—

#### (1) Crop pests and diseases

- (a) Sugarcane top-borer
- (b) Sugarcane stem-borer
- (c) Sugarcane pyrrilla
- (d) Gurdaspur borer
- (e) Cotton jassid
- (f) Rice bug
- (g) *Sarson* aphid
- (h) Gram cut-worm
- (i) Loose smut of wheat
- (j) *Toka* or *Phirkala*
- (k) Covered smut of barley

#### (2) Fruit pests and diseases

- (a) Citrus psylla
- (b) Lemon caterpillar
- (c) Mango hopper
- (d) Mango mealy bug
- (e) Citrus canker

## (3) Vegetable pests

- (a) Red pumpkin beetle
- (b) Brinjal *hadda*
- (c) Potato and *Bhindi* jassid
- (d) *Singhara* beetle

## (4) Stored grains pests

- (a) *Khapra*
- (b) *Susri*
- (c) *Dhara*

## (5) Miscellaneous pests

- (a) Field rats
- (b) Jackals

## (6) Obnoxious weeds

*Pohli*

These pests and diseases attack the standing crops and stored grains with varying intensity. The Agriculture Department is advocating through intensive propaganda different control measures to reduce the damage. Under the East Punjab Agricultural Pests, Diseases and Noxious Weeds Act, 1949, cultivators who do not eradicate weeds, pests and diseases before the maturing of seeds, are liable to be prosecuted. Apart from this, agriculture is subject to heavy damage caused by hails and floods. Table XIV of Appendix gives details about the damage done in the district through different agencies during 1955-56 to 1965-66.

## ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The District Animal Husbandry Officer at Rohtak, working under the control of the Director of Animal Husbandry, Haryana, Chandigarh is assisted by 29 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, 39 Veterinary Compounders and 15 Livestock Assistants. The main activities of the department are: cattle breeding, horse, mule, sheep and donkey breeding, investigation and control of animal diseases, etc.

The composition of livestock population in the district given below according to the quinquennial livestock censuses, shows that



while the number of buffaloes, sheep, camels and pigs has increased that of cattle, goats and donkeys has fallen:

Livestock	1951	1956	1961	1966
Cattle	3,50,200	3,54,000	3,57,400	3,23,600
Buffaloes	2,38,300	2,57,900	3,14,200	3,28,800
Sheep	36,300	75,300	12,400	45,900
Goats	50,400	69,200	44,300	34,000
Horses and Ponies	4,400	3,400	4,600	5,000
Donkeys	17,400	14,900	21,200	14,700
Mules	500	1,000	2,100	1,700
Camels	7,300	6,900	9,400	12,200
Pigs	16,900	16,900	27,400	23,800
Total :	7,21,700	7,99,500	7,93,000	7,89,700

### Cattle and Buffaloes

Animals, especially cattle, play an important role in the economy of the district. The essential equipment of the peasant-farmer includes a pair of oxen or buffaloes to do the ploughing and to draw his cart. Even though bullocks have been replaced by tractors, motor transport and electric power in some cases, yet many farmers, particularly the small cultivators, still depend upon them.

The Royal Commission on Agriculture in India remarked about cows in India that "in most parts of the world, they (cows) are valued for food and for milk; in India, their primary purpose is draught for the plough or the cart. The religious veneration accorded to the cow by the Hindus is widely known. To at least half of the population of India the slaughter of the cow is prohibited, and this outstanding fact governs the whole problem of improvement of cattle in this country. It is necessary to recognize the obligations under which the country owes to the cow and to her offspring, the trusty ox. Without the ox

no cultivation would be possible; without the ox, no produce could be transported."<sup>1</sup> This is largely true even today.

The Rohtak district has a long history of cattle rearing. Before 1820, large herds of cattle were kept by individual landowners. As the grazing area was abundant, the stocking of grazing lands was usually light; therefore, the question of a real fodder famine grew acute only when rains failed for two to three years in succession. In case of a severe famine, it was customary to move the cattle to the banks of the Yamuna or wherever grazing was available after the local fodder reserves had been exhausted. In a way famines did good to the quality of the breed by compelling owners to select their best cattle to be sent to places where fodder was more plentiful. The relatively poorer cattle were left behind to die in large numbers. This periodic, but vigorous, selection in those days was probably one of the most significant factors in keeping up the quality of the cattle.

The history of cattle breeding after 1820 is closely connected with various economic factors such as famines, the spread of canal irrigation and the breaking up of grazing areas. Each of these factors in its own way hastened the decrease of feed and forage available. Whenever a period of scarcity occurred, both man and beast suffered, the latter much more. There are no accurate records of cattle mortality due to famines prior to 1800, but references to different famines in district songs and folklore give some idea of the extent of suffering and loss of cattle. The extensive breaking-up of grazing lands after 1840 consequent on the introduction of flow irrigation greatly restricted the grazing grounds of the villages; the fodder-supply grown in the fields was barely sufficient for the yearly consumption of the cattle, and left but a small margin as reserve against drought.

In the beginning of the twentieth century the cattle of this district were reported to be famous on account of their fine conformation and size.<sup>2</sup> The oxen of the villages round Beri and Jahazgarh had a special reputation, which was said to be due to the fact that the Nawab of Jhajjar kept some bulls of Nagor breed at Chuchakwas, and allowed them to mix with the cattle of the surrounding villages.

The district has the distinction of being one of the areas regarded as the home of Murrah and Haryana breeds. Murrah buffalo-cows

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1. *Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India*, 1928 p. 169.

2. *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 111.



are amongst the most efficient milk and butter-fat producers in India. They are used for milk and ghee production in almost all the big cities and in rural areas. The best specimens of this breed in the district are found in the Rohtak and Gohana tahsils. Although average lactation yield in these herds varies from 1,500 to 2,000 kg. several individual specimens have yielded over 3,500 kg in a single lactation. The butter-fat content varies from 4 to 13 per cent, the average being about 7 per cent.

The Murrah buffalo-cow has a very deep massive frame with a comparatively light neck and head, short tightly curled horns, well-developed udder, and long tail with white marking reaching the fetlock. While the popular colour is jet black, animals of brown colour are also found. The white markings on face and extremities common in Nili and Ravi buffaloes are not present in the true Murrah.<sup>1</sup>

Haryana cattle are proportionately built and have a compact symmetrical body. The best specimens of pure Haryana are available in the Rohtak and Jhajjar tahsils.<sup>2</sup> The bullocks are good work animals, particularly for fast ploughing and road transport. The typical mature males measure 1.42 to 1.45 meters in height behind the hump and weigh from 380 to 500 kg while mature females measure 1.32 to 1.35 meters in height and weigh about 300 kg. The head is carried high and gives them a graceful appearance. The popular colour is white or light grey. In some of the males particularly when entire, the head, neck, hump and quarters develop a dark grey colour, but this colour often changes to white on castration. The long and narrow face with a flat forehead and a well-marked bony prominence at the centre of the poll are the indications of purity of breed.<sup>3</sup>

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1. White colour constitutes a disqualification for a Murrah buffalo, black switch in the tail is considered unlucky but not a disqualification.

2. The cattle found in Hissar district with loose thick skin, long sheath, large dewlap, long and thick horns and big drooping ears should be differentiated from the pure Haryana, met within the Rohtak and Jhajjar tahsils, which have a long and narrow face with flat forehead and a well marked bony prominence at the centre of the poll; they have short horns, small ears, fine thin skin close to the body and a small dewlap and small sheath.

3. Points for disqualification of Haryana cow :

(1) markedly sloping rump, (2) loose sheath, (3) coarse tail, (4) any colour other than white or grey, (5) white hair on switch of tail, (6) long tail with switch nearly touching ground (distance less than 6 inches from ground), (7) a typical horn and (8) concave or bulging forehead.



*(Courtesy : Indian Council of Agricultural Research,  
New Delhi)*

*Murrah buffalo-cow (Highest milk-yielding, 22.85 kg. per day,  
animal of the All-India Cattle Show, Hissar, 1965)*



(Courtesy: Indian Council of Agricultural Research,  
New Delhi)  
Murrah buffalo-bull (Best animal, opposite sex, All-India Cattle Show,  
Bharu, 1965)



The cows are good milkers, and for this reason they are very much in demand all over the country. Pedigree herds of this breed are maintained in Government farms. The lactation yield varies from 900 kg to 1,400 kg, although production as high as 3,840 kg has been recorded.

**Measures to improve quality of cattle breed.**—As early as 1897, the District Board (now Zila Parishad), Rohtak, recognised the importance of protection and improvement of animals. It maintained quality bulls and subsidised the breeding of cows and buffaloes. Such work has been continued and extended in various ways both by the local bodies and the government. A key village scheme has been in operation since 1958. Under this scheme, which is a centrally co-ordinated project aiming at improvement of cattle and buffaloes in selected villages, pedigree bulls from the Government Livestock Farm, Hissar, are provided. There are 3 key village blocks (4 with 6 key village units each and 1 with 10 key village units) in the Rohtak district. Each unit has 1,000 female animals of breedable age (above 3 years). The villages are contiguous to form a compact block. There are 5 artificial insemination centres located at Rohtak, Sampla, Sonapat, Bahadurgarh and Kalanaur.<sup>1</sup> Bulls of superior quality are located at each centre. Semen is transported regularly from the centre to the key village units. Additionally, in each key village unit, 2 bulls are maintained to provide natural service where artificial insemination cannot be done due to some unavoidable reason or delay in the receipt of semen from the centre. All unapproved bulls are castrated or removed from the key village block and no bull other than the selected one is allowed to breed. The scheme also envisages giving simultaneous attention to other aspects of cattle improvement, namely, scientific feeding, proper management, effective disease control, and marketing of livestock and livestock products.

Selected male calves born out of high yielding dams are taken up for subsidised rearing under the scheme. A subsidy of Rs. 15 per month is allowed to the owner of the selected calf till the calf is matured or is 2½ years old, whichever is earlier. The Government has the first right to purchase such calves, when they mature, for its cattle development activities.

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1. Each key village block has a main artificial insemination centre with 10 key village units attached to it.



### Dairy Farming

Not only in the State but also all over the country, the Rohtak district is known for the quality of its milch animals, both cows and buffaloes. According to the 1966 Livestock Census, there were about 74,200 cows and about 1,72,300 buffaloes in the district:

	Cows	Buffaloes
In milk	45,596	1,06,364
Dry	28,550	65,933
Others	47	23
Total	4,193	1,72,320

Despite this large cattle wealth, organized dairy industry has not been developed in the district and in the absence of an assured remunerative market for milk most of the high class milch animals bred here are exported to Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and other big cities. Since 1947, the export of quality milch animals from the district has considerably increased. This is because some of the territories, which met the demand partly, have gone to Pakistan.

The farmer can be interested in maintaining quality milch animals for commercial milk production only if he finds a ready and remunerative market for milk near at hand. The venture of Delhi Milk Scheme to provide such a facility has, however, not succeeded so far in this district for various reasons. Firstly, the Delhi Milk Scheme has not taken any fruitful measures to increase milk production in the area. Secondly, it has not been offering an attractive price. The price at which milk is sold for local consumption is generally higher than what the Delhi Milk Scheme offers. With industrialisation and the resulting urbanisation in some of the areas of the district, such as Bahadurgarh and Sonapat, local demand for milk has increased considerably. The milk collection and chilling centres, which the Delhi Milk Scheme had put up at these two places have, therefore, not succeeded. The Delhi Milk Scheme has lately been planning to initiate a programme for developing milk production in the rural areas around its milk collecting and chilling centres at Kharkhauda, Sonapat, Sampala and Bahadurgarh.

### Sheep Breeding

In order to improve the quality of sheep, a sheep extension centre was established in the Rohtak tahsil at Kahnaur during the Second Five-Year Plan and was later shifted to Ritoli. The centre is under the charge of a Stock Assistant who is assisted by 2 shepherds. The activities of the Stock Assistant are guided and directed by the Supervisor, Sheep and Wool, Bhiwani (Hissar district), who is under the control of the Assistant Director, Animal Husbandry, Sheep and Wool Development, Chandigarh. The centre does useful work in educating the breeders in the improved methods of rearing and management of sheep, including the shearing and grading of wool, and in providing veterinary aid to protect sheep from contagious and non-contagious diseases which often cause heavy losses.

The registered flocks in the area are regularly visited by the field staff. Improved rams are supplied for these flocks from the Government Livestock Farm, Hissar. Sheep shows are held at different sheep centres in the State and cash prizes are awarded as an incentive.

### Horses and Ponies

Horse keeping has lost its value as a result of increased availability of mechanised transport, rise in cost of rations and lack of demand for military purposes.

### Donkeys and Mules

These beasts of burden are useful for transportation. The Rohtak district has a fairly large number of mules. Donkey stallions are maintained at certain veterinary hospitals for stud purposes. Lately mule breeding has become popular because of the rising demand in the army for mules which fetch handsome prices.

### Camels

These are found mostly in the sandy area of the Jhajjar tahsil. The camel is used in cultivation, for drawing water from the well and for the transport of agricultural produce to the town market and daily requirements from the town to the village. Although in some areas it is being replaced by the tractor, the camel is still indispensable in poor and sandy villages.

### Poultry Farming

There is much scope for poultry development in the district because of its proximity to Delhi which provides a ready market. But the Haryana



State has inherited a very weak structure of poultry organisation. At the Poultry Extension Centre, Rohtak, there are 103 birds against the available accommodation for 1,000. The centre supplies improved birds and eggs for hatching. The other facilities provided at the centre include training and technical guidance, sale of feed at no profit and no loss basis, hatching at nominal rates, control of poultry diseases, vaccination, grant of subsidy for the purchase of day old chicks and for the construction of poultry sheds, but neither in Rohtak nor in the few poultry farms in the district has this activity made any headway.

### Animal Diseases and Veterinary Hospitals

**Animal diseases.**—The common animal contagious diseases are rinderpest or cattle plague (*birja, wah, mata* and *khunt dust*), haemorrhagic septicaemia (*ghotu, gal ghotu* or *gal sujan*), black-quarter or black-leg (*saraha, patsuja*), foot and mouth disease (*mumh khur, rora chapka*) and parasitic diseases. These diseases are controlled with prophylactic vaccinations and curative measures. Since regular campaigns for inoculation and vaccination against these diseases are conducted, none of these has taken any epidemic form. With the introduction of Rinderpest Eradication Project in 1958, the incidence of this disease, which used to take a heavy toll, has been much reduced.

**Veterinary hospitals.**—In pursuance of a resolution passed by the District Board (now Zila Parishad) in 1920, veterinary dispensaries under the charge of Stock Assistants in the rural areas and regular veterinary hospitals under the charge of Veterinary Assistant Surgeons at the district and tahsil headquarters were opened. The list of these hospitals and dispensaries is given in Table XV of Appendix. The Veterinary Assistant Surgeons and Stock Assistants, apart from attending cases brought to veterinary institutions, treat the ailing animals during their regular tours in the villages and perform prophylactic vaccinations. Undesirable bulls are also castrated.

### FISHERIES

Considering the following water resources there appears to be a good scope for the development of fisheries :—

- (1) The Yamuna and its tributaries.
- (2) Jhils Surah, Aurangpur, Kot Kalan, Kaloi, Ukhal Chana, Dullna, Jahangirpur, Yaqoobpur, Manipur, Palpa, Zahadpur, Jua, Sersa, Dobeta, Murthai and Bhindawas.

## (3) The Sahibi and its tributaries.

Besides, almost every village has one or two ponds used mainly to provide water for the cattle and for washing purposes. The villagers, being mostly vegetarian, do not take sufficient interest in the scheme of the Fisheries Department to utilise these ponds for fish culture. All the same the Panchayat Samitis do buy fish seed at a concessional rate of Rs. 20 per thousand.

Fish seed of suitable varieties is collected from the spawning grounds which are generally found in pools cut off from the Yamuna, canals and various drains, especially Drain No. 8. A fish seed farm is proposed to be established in the Rohtak district.

The production of fish in the district is estimated at 1,200 quintals per annum. The major part is exported to Delhi and Calcutta. A fish coldstorage plant has been established at Sonapat to provide marketing facilities to the fish merchants.

The important varieties of food fish available in the district are as under :

1. Carps of family *Cyprinidae*

*Labeo rohita* (Rohu).—It is a column-bottom feeder, and grows to three feet or more in length. It is a very popular variety.

*Labeo calbasu* (Kalbasu).—It is relatively slow growing and attains a size of about three feet.

*Catla catla* (Thalia).—It is a surface feeder and the fastest growing carp fish in India. It is quite popular when not exceeding two feet in size. The large specimens, reaching up to six feet, are rare.

*Cirrhina mrigala* (Mori).—It is a bottom feeder and grows to three feet or more.

*Barbus tor* or *Tor tor* (Mahaseer).—It grows up to 5½ feet in length. It is a premier sporting fish of India. It travels towards the headwaters at the beginning of the rains, and travels downstreams afterwards.

2. Cat fishes of sub-order *Siluroideae*

*Wallago attu* (Mall).—It is a predacious and piscivorous fish, and grows to a size of about six feet. It is a good game fish.

*Bagarius bagarius* (Gonch).—It grows up to six feet in size and is probably the largest fish caught on rod and line in India.



*Silenta silandia* (Silond).—It prefers strong streams and clear deep waters. It grows to a size of six feet, and is considered good for eating.

*Mystus seenghala* (Seenghala).—It attains a length of over four feet.

*Mystus aor* (Seenghari)

*Mystus cavasius* (Tengra)

*Rita rita* (Khagga)

### 3. Fishes of family *Notopteridae*

*Notopterus notopterus* (Pari)

*Notopterus chitala* (Moh).—It is a game fish growing to about 1½ feet in size.

### 4. Murrels of family *Ophiocephalidae*

*Ophiocephalus*<sup>1</sup> *marulius* (Saul)

*Ophiocephalus*<sup>2</sup> *striatus* (Daula)

*Ophiocephalus*<sup>1</sup> *punctatus* (Karrar)

*Ophiocephalus*<sup>1</sup> *gachua* (Dauli)

### 5. Spiny eels of family *Mastacembelidae*

*Mastacembelus pancalus* (Groj)

*Mastacembelus armatus* (Groj)

## FORESTRY

The district lies in the jurisdiction of the Rohtak Forest Division with headquarters at Rohtak. This division falls in Haryana Circle which has its headquarters at Pinjore.<sup>3</sup>

The area under regular forests in the district is very small. The pressure of population leading to small holdings and the consequent

1. 'Ophiocephalus' has been replaced by the word 'Chana' by the Zoological Survey of India.

2. The forest administration is under the charge of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Haryana. The State is divided into administrative charges designated as circles, each under the charge of a Conservator of Forests. A circle is divided into controlling charges called forest divisions, each under the charge of a Divisional Forest Officer. A forest division is divided into sub-divisions and ranges or executive charges which are further sub-divided into blocks comprising beats or protective charges. The charge of range is ordinarily held by a Forest Ranger. The charge of a block is held by a Deputy Ranger or a Forester and of a beat by a Forest Guard.

need to grow more food have necessitated the cultivation of most available waste lands, leaving nothing but poor uncultivable areas to the Forest Department. After the Partition in 1947 there had been an acute shortage of fuel resources throughout the State. It was decided to bring in more Government lands under the control of the Forest Department for raising fuel and economic plantations. Therefore, in 1951, railway strips and strips of national highways were put under the charge of the Forest Department. In 1956, Government decided to transfer the areas of the strips along all P.W.D. roads and canals to the Forest Department for afforestation.

The forest area in the Rohtak district in 1966-67 was 8,340 hectares. It comprised 171 hectares of reserved forests, 40 hectares of protected forests of Bir Nahar, 6,508 hectares of avenue strips along P.W.D. roads, railways and canals in addition to 1,621 hectares of private areas closed under sections 4 and 5 of the Punjab Land Preservation Act, 1900.

There are two territorial forest ranges in the district, viz. (i) Sonapat Range which extends over Sonapat and Gohana tahsils, and (ii) Rohtak Range which covers Rohtak and Jhajjar tahsils. There is also one Forest Extension and Soil Conservation Range with its headquarters at Rohtak. It deals with all the private areas closed under sections 4 and 5 of the Punjab Land Preservation Act, 1900. The technical and the executive staff looks after the existing forest areas belonging to the Government as well as private areas. The staff also attends to the soil conservation works and anti-erosion measures.

Plants like *shisham*, *neem*, *sisir*, *jaman*, *kikar*, *drek* and ornamental plants like *amaltas* and *gulmohr* are raised in a number of forest nurseries for the raising of plantations in different forest areas. The plants from the nurseries are supplied to other departments as well as to the public. Limited income accrues from forest produce consisting of timber, firewood, grass, *kana*, *dhak*, gum, etc. It amounted to about Rs. 1.5 lakhs in 1966-67.

### NATURAL CALAMITIES

Water, a great gift of nature, poses two problems in the Rohtak district: its seasonal excess and its general deficiency. In some of the canal irrigated areas, the underground water-level is rising and has become a matter of grave concern to the people and the Government. The dry and arid areas of the Jhajjar tahsil on the other hand suffer



from drought owing to inadequate rains. Even drinking water in such places is in short supply for the water is mostly brackish. At many places the sweet water has to be brought from a distance of 3 to 4 furlongs. Besides, a well may yield good water for only a limited part of the year.

### Floods

Due to the extension of irrigation in the district from the Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal, there has been much precipitation. There is also inflow of water from Karnal and Jind districts which lie to the northern side. As the slope of the land is from north to south towards this district, the main inflow is from the Chautang and Rakshi Nadis which enter the district in the form of the Nai Nallah. The Yamuna, passing along the eastern boundary of the district is the only natural drainage line which can provide a suitable natural outfall for the drains of the district. However, the topography of the district does not permit the natural drains to outfall directly into the river. Only a part of the Sonapat tahsil lying to the east of the Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal (Delhi Branch) is drained directly into the Yamuna. In the rest of the district, the natural drainage lines run from north-east to south, where they collect in the form of a large drain (Drain No. 8) and fall into a big depression near Bhindawas called the Bhindawas Lake.

The major cause of flooding in the district is the uncontrolled supply of flood water brought down by the Chautang, Rakshi and Sarasvati Nadis. These *nadis* have their origin in the low Shiwalik Hills. These waters, after crossing the Pipli-Jagadhri road, through a depression near Ladwa, come and strike the right bank of the Sirsa Branch near R.D. 34,560. A large number of drainage syphons exist under the Sirsa Branch. The flood water after passing through the syphons, finds its way into the natural depression known as Nai Nallah towards Hansi Branch. After crossing Hansi Branch through a syphon, the flood water travels towards Gohana town, which begins to look like an island, surrounded on all sides by a vast expanse of flood water. Drain No. 8 which is supposed to drain off this water starts from Gohana. The flood water then passes through this drain towards Rohtak and ultimately collects in a natural depression near Jahazgarh, submerging a number of villages in the Jhajjar tahsil.

The district has suffered from floods for a long time. "Tradition says that in the 17th or 18th century the dam of the old royal canal of Nawab Mardan Ali Khan (Ali Mardan Khan) broke below

Gohana and a flood came down which destroyed the city of Lalpura whose foundations still lie a mile or so west of Rohtak, but time has probably exaggerated the catastrophe."<sup>1</sup>

Some of the worst floods which hit the district during the present century occurred in the years 1924, 1925, 1933, 1960, 1961, 1963, 1964 and 1967. The floods in 1924 in which the notorious Drain No. 8 caused considerable damage were caused by the over-flowing of the Yamuna. Sonapat tahsil was badly affected and considerable damage was caused in the Rohtak and Gohana tahsils.

The flood of 1933 was the most terrible and unprecedented. "The new *abadi* outside the old Rohtak town *abadi* and extending up to the Railway Station, and the Civil Station was all under water. The depth of the water was from 12 to 18 feet in some places, such as the College and its vicinity, etc. Many houses had collapsed both in the town and the villages and much loss of property was caused. Relief centres for the help of the distressed people were opened at several places, incurring an expenditure of Rs. 38,711-12-3. (*taccavi*) in the form of seed of the value of Rs. 1,52,795 was freely distributed. No loss of human life had taken place, but some loss of cattle was reported."<sup>2</sup>

There were unprecedented rains in 1960 especially during the month of August. These resulted in very heavy floods in Gohana and a number of surrounding villages. Most of the roads leading to the town were cut off. The entire accumulated water at Gohana and surrounding villages had only one outlet, i.e. Drain No. 8 which out-falls in the Bhindawas Lake and passes near Rohtak at a distance of 3 miles to its west. This accumulated water and heavy rainfall resulted in breaches in the banks of the drain and 533 villages (out of a total of 761 in the district) and Rohtak town itself were flooded. Almost all the business localities and the major portion of the Civil Lines were under water. The depth of water was six to eight feet in some places. The old city on the mound was practically marooned and communication was possible only by boat. The area in the outskirts of Rohtak and the town is saucer-shaped, with the result that the water flows into it easily from the surrounding areas. And as no natural drainage is possible every drop of such water had to be pumped out. The vastness of the problem may be gauged from the fact that

1. *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 23.

2. *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, Part B, *Statistical Tables*, 1936, p. 3.



an area of about 2,700 acres was under water, requiring the pumping out of about 2,650 million gallons. Military, police and voluntary organizations had to be rushed to provide assistance.

Floods again hit the Rohtak district in August 1961, affecting 323 villages and completely marooning 86. The notorious Drain No. 8 again spilled over at Gohana and the bund to the north-west of the town was breached at many places. The villages lying on either side of the drain were inundated. Another stream coming from Jind side flooded areas across Butana, Baroda and Ahulana. Still another stream flooded about a dozen villages lying between Rithal and Samchana for some 20 odd miles. The West Juan Drain badly flooded a tract about 30 miles long and in places three miles wide. Bahadurgarh town was partly flooded and its industrial area particularly suffered damages. At one time, all the roads leading to Rohtak, except the Hissar road, were cut off by torrents of water. The 9-mile Jhundpur-Takrol-Mihrampur bund on the Yamuna in the area of Sonapat sub-division was also breached and water rushed through a number of villages. The residents of Jhundpur had to be encamped in Sonapat.

During 1963, the breaches in various drains and heavy rainfall flooded various lowlying areas, i.e. Baroda, Jagsi, Bhandari, Banwasa, Chhapra, Bhanwar, Kathura, Wazirpur, Gangesar, Bichhpari, Khandrai, Dhanana, Chiri, Sewana and parts of Malet. Lift pumps were installed at many places in an area of 97,931 acres and linked drains at some places were constructed for de-watering the area.

Again in 1964, the heavy rainfall resulted in floods in the Sonapat tahsil. Almost the whole of the tahsil was under water. Breaches in Drain No. 6 were the main cause of floods in this area. After closing the breaches, pumps were installed at various places to de-water the area. The year 1967 also witnessed extensive floods in the Jhajjar and Sonapat tahsils. The Sahibi Nadi affected about 75 villages of the Jhajjar tahsil. The area of 25 miles from Fatehpuri to the Dhasa Bund was one continuous sheet of water. The overflowing of the Yamuna resulted in the inundation of quite a number of villages in the Sonapat tahsil too.

**Prevention of floods.**—There being no dam on the Yamuna, the discharge in the monsoon months is tremendous. In years of good rainfall, there is much damage to the area despite the fact that some bunds have been constructed to protect local *abadis*. According to an agreement with the Uttar Pradesh Government, continuous or

permanent embankments cannot be constructed along the Yamuna so that neither Uttar Pradesh nor Haryana gets adversely affected. Bunds can be built only to protect local *abadis*. The flooding from the Yamuna will continue till such time as dams and embankments are built.

The other menace is the water from the catchment area of the adjoining districts brought to Rohtak by streams. On the northern side, Drain No. 8 brings water from Karnal and Jind districts, while the Sahibi Nadi brings water from Rajasthan and a part of the Gurgaon district. These defects are being remedied. Drain No. 8 starts opposite Gohana town and after covering 55 miles outfalls near Jahazgarh (Jhajjar tahsil) into Bhindawas depression. To check the overflowing of this drain its left bank (towards Rohtak town) has been raised by 3 feet and the right bank by 1 foot. Further, flood water of this drain has been diverted to the Yamuna through a newly constructed Diversion Drain No. 8 which is 46 miles in length from Gohana to the Yamuna. Most parts of the Gohana and Sonapat tahsils have benefited by this diversion drain. For the disposal of the water, accumulated in Bhindawas depression, a link drain, 32 miles long, from outfall of Drain No. 8 to Najafgarh Jhil (in Delhi) has been constructed and is being widened.<sup>1</sup> Water brought by the Sahibi Nadi during the floods is also carried by this drain. The other two minor drains are: Dobeta Drain and Chhapra Drain. The former, 13 miles long, is a tributary drain to Diversion Drain No. 8 and serves Dobeta village in the Sonapat tahsil and Bidhal, Katwal, Lath and other villages of the Gohana tahsil while the latter, 8 miles long, caters only to the Gohana tahsil and outfalls into Drain No. 8.

The remodelling of Drain No. 6, which is an old drain, 26 miles in length, was taken in hand after the monsoon of 1964. The work has been completed and will chiefly benefit the Sonapat tahsil.

The remodelling work on Sink Bahadurpur Drain and Isapur Kheri Drain is in progress while proposals in respect of Nai Nallah, Drain No. 3, Drain No. 4, etc., are under consideration. Thus the drainage problem of the district is receiving due attention from the district and State authorities.

#### Famines and Droughts

The record of famines is a sad chapter in the history of the district. With insufficient means of irrigation and notoriously precarious

1. The capacity of Najafgarh Drain from Najafgarh Jhil to the Yamuna is also being increased.



rainfall it was natural that it should be frequently visited by famines. Each of these was given a specific name based on the year of its occurrence and is like an epoch in the history of the countryside. The famines (*kal* or *akal*) best remembered, are mentioned below<sup>1</sup>:

Year		Local name of famine <sup>2</sup>	Brief description
A. D.	<i>Samvat</i>		
1753-54	1810	<i>Dasa</i>	..
1782-83	1840	<i>Chalisa</i>	Lasted for three years; grain sold at 5 seers to a rupee; a large number of villages date their refoundation in whole or in part from this famine.
1802-03	1860	<i>Satha</i>	Grain sold at 10 seers to a rupee, two consecutive harvests having failed.
1812-13	1869	<i>Unhatta</i>	Particularly severe in <i>Bagar</i> country from which people emigrated to the Rohtak and Jhajjar tahsils; grain sold at 7-8 seers to a rupee.
1817-18	1874	<i>Chauhatta</i>	Chiefly a fodder famine like that of A.D. 1877-78; grain sold at 12 seers to a rupee.
1833-34	1890	<i>Nawwa</i>	Very severe grain famine, grain unprocurable.
1837-38	1894	<i>Chauranwa</i>	Not so severe as in A.D. 1833-34.

1. For a detailed description of famines see *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, (1910, pp. 146-52).

2. The local names of the famines convey the *Samvat* years in which they occurred.

Year		Local name of famine	Brief description
A.D.	<i>Samvat</i>		
1860-61	1917	<i>Sattrah</i>	More severe than the <i>Challsa</i> . Rains failed for two years ; three preceding harvests bad ; people had to resort to berries of <i>karil</i> bushes; the rains of 1859-60 were poor, and those of 1860-61 failed almost entirely so that Najafgarh Jhil ran dry — an occurrence unknown before; grain sold at 8 seers to a rupee. First famine in the district in which relief was regularly organised by the British Government: 4,00,000 persons employed on relief works; considerable loss of cattle.
1868-69	1925	<i>Pachisa</i>	Provincial famine; grain at 10 seers to a rupee; 12,50,000 persons employed on relief works (chiefly clearance of water tanks); loss of cattle 90,000 head; another 50,000 head of cattle sent off to the hills.
1877-78	1934	<i>Chautisa</i>	Very severe fodder famine; loss of cattle greater than ever before, estimated at about 1,77,000 by sale, death or transfers.
1886-87	1940	<i>Chalisa</i>	Light famine.
1896-97	1953	<i>Tirepana</i>	Not very severe. With 1895-96 a cycle of lean years began which lasted eleven years, with three famines and four years of scarcity.



Year		Local name of famine	Brief description
A.D.	<i>Samvat</i>		
1899-1900	1956	<i>Chhapana</i>	Very severe; great fodder scarcity. Twenty thousand cows and buffaloes sold at fairs and prices fell from 28 to 14 rupees per head; 43,000 persons employed on relief work, costing 7,50,000 of rupees.
1905-06	1963	<i>Tiresatha</i>	Fodder 10 bundles of <i>jowar</i> per rupee, imported from Bhatinda and other parts of the Punjab. In some villages no cattle was left.
1909-10	1967		Grain at 8 seers to a rupee. In 1911 only <i>rabi</i> was good, <i>kharif</i> failed.
1913-14	1971		Grain at 8 to 10 seers to a rupee. Great fodder scarcity.
1918-19	1976		Scarcity of fodder and grain. Also severe epidemic of influenza.
1928-30	1986-88		Lasted for three years; effects aggravated considerably by world-wide agricultural depression; Rs. 2,40,268 remitted and Rs. 12,07,404 suspended; scarcity of fodder in particular.
1938	1996		There had been a succession of three poor crops when the monsoon failed in 1938 and caused acute and widespread distress. The famine lasted for about three years and Government spent Rs. 2,78,00,000 on relief measures.

Before the adoption of systematic relief measures famines resulted in deserted sites. With the spread of irrigation, the increase in the means of communications and famine relief measures, such disasters from foodgrain famines ceased to recur. The irrigated area in the district has developed into an area producing not only commercial crops but also fodder crops. The *barani* areas, too, in case of failure of rains, receive supplies of fodder from the irrigated areas, their own responsibility on such occasions being limited to the raising of cattle.



## CHAPTER V

### INDUSTRIES

#### Background

Rohtak has been primarily an agricultural district; its old industries were confined to village and cottage sector. These included pottery, stone-dressing, leather tanning, handloom weaving, *phulkari*, utensil making, glass bangles and salt. Most of these have, however, been gradually decaying due to one reason or another.

**Pottery.**—The village pottery is as old as the country itself and Jhajjar enjoyed a special reputation in this field. Its products were known for their finish, originality of colour and decorative character. In the exhibition of 1864, the pottery of Jhajjar was described as the best among the unglazed collections of the Punjab. It also figured prominently in the exhibition of 1909 and Latifi described it in the following words:—

"*Kagazi* (paper-like) pottery is remarkable for its thinness, and is made by *Kuzgars* (makers of this ware as distinguished from ordinary *Kumhars*) at *Basti Shelkh* in Jullundur and also at Jhajjar, Panipat and a few other places. Clay of good texture is used, and is prepared with very great care. The articles generally made are *surahis* (water-jugs), and *katoras* (drinking-cups).

"In addition to *kagazi* ware, the potters of Jhajjar make black utensils of exceptional hardness, ornamented with scratched pattern in amalgam. Small quantities of both varieties are exported to Delhi."

This industry has become practically extinct for various reasons the chief among which were the exodus of Muslim artisans after the Partition and the absence of a rail link with Jhajjar. However, some workers are still engaged in Jhajjar in the manufacture of hookahs, *surahis* and pitchers, in making the last two of which they mix saltpetre in the clay to keep the water cooler than in *surahis* made of ordinary clay. They also make earthen vessels, tea-pots, flower-pots, small toys and fancy vases.

Crude coloured toys, sold at country fairs are made at Rohtak and Gohana. The *Nanak Shahi* bricks baked in the district in olden days

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1. A. Latifi, *The Industrial Punjab*, 1911, p. 275.

have become completely extinct. In this connection, Latifi wrote as under:

"Terracotta clays of fine texture, yielding wares of good colour on being fired, are found in Jullundur and Rohtak districts. Most of them however, are fusible at a comparatively low temperature, and are unsuitable for the manufacture of stoneware, but they could be made into superior red facing-bricks, ornamental tiles and other fancy terracotta wares".<sup>1</sup>

**Stone-dressing.**—Stone-dressing and carving was another village industry, famous for the workmanship of the artisans. The *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1910, described the same as under:

"Many of the village houses have well-carved door frames, though the work seldom shows originality. The masonry houses are often fine and some really delicate work is to be seen on some of the newer houses in Ahulana and particularly on the Jain temple in Rohtak. The masonry *chaupals*.....are distinctive and handsome and Beri is famous for its masons."

Two idols in the famous Durga Temple of Beri testify to the artistic skill of the workers of this area. The industry is, however, decaying on account of extensive use of stone chips, reinforced concrete cement and lintel works.

**Leather tanning.**—Ample availability of raw material facilitated the development of leather tanning on cottage and small scale basis in many villages of the district. The method used here was, however, as crude and unscientific as in rural areas elsewhere. The Khatiks and Rehgars who undertook this work did rough tanning with lime and soda.

Kalanaur, a village in the Rohtak tahsil, was once known for its saddlery which was made from bullock hide and was highly decorated by insertion of stripes of different colours. It was much in demand until the products of Kanpur and Meerut came into the field. The indigenous industry then died out in the early 20th century.

**Cotton-manufactures.**—Cotton ginning, carding, spinning, and weaving is another old industry of the district. Cotton ginning was done by

1. A. Latifi, *The Industrial Punjab*, 1911, p. 271.



women in every rural household on a small roller, worked by hand, called *charkhi*. Cotton carding was done by the *penja* or *dhunna* available in almost every village. The spinning was entirely done by women in their spare time during the day. As elsewhere in many parts of India, it was a familiar sight to observe a bevy of girls and women seated together in some open space, singing and spinning the yarn on the wheel (*charkha*). The weaving was done by *dhanees* or *julahas* on pit-loom. The coarse cloth used for men's clothing was *khaddar*. In addition to *khaddar*, *khes* and *dotahi* were also made. *Khes* is a closely woven cloth, used as a blanket, and *dotahi* is bedding of the same texture and quality ornamented with a pattern in colour. These products gradually lost their market to machine-made goods. Recent Government policy to revive the handloom weaving and old handicrafts of the country, has again given a fillip to this decaying industry.

Besides the rough and common cloth, the town of Rohtak was known for muslins interwoven with gold and silver threads used for turbans and also for muslins of a particularly fine texture called *tanzebs*. Lockwood Kipling, one-time Principal, Mayo School of Arts, Lahore, said, "The Punjab has never been famous for very fine cotton manufactures and the *tanzeb* muslins of Rohtak are probably the best produced in the province."<sup>1</sup> Mukharji recorded, "the only place where fine muslins are now woven in the Province (Punjab) is Rohtak."<sup>2</sup> The art of manufacturing fine muslins was once extensively carried on at Rohtak which at one period of its history became a flourishing centre for this industry. The demand for such cloth was widespread and it was exported to places at considerable distances.

Dyeing was a speciality of Jhajjar; goods dyed here showed a remarkable range of colours. The introduction of aniline dyes which are cheaper, more varied and less tedious to apply, swept away the dyeing industry here as elsewhere.

**Embroidery.**—Hand embroidery on a woven fabric with coloured threads of wool or silk by means of a needle is an important handicraft, carried on by women. *Phulkari*, silk embroidered *chaddar* or veil for womenfolk has withstood competition by machines. This laborious handicraft for which Rohtak is well known requires much leisure, patience and the skill of many hands to embroider a single roll of coarse red cloth.

1. *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1883-84, p. 101.

2. T.N. Mukharji, *Art-Manufactures of India*, 1888, p. 322.

**Metal products.**—The *thathlar* (kettle-mender) going on his usual rounds in villages was a familiar sight in the district. Village Nagar, a suburb of Gohana, had a number of workmen, mostly Muslims, who were engaged in making pots and pans of brass and copper. The utensils of copper and tin amalgam known as *kansl* made there were highly esteemed. Sonapat and Panipat were two good markets for this kind of metal ware.

**Salt.**—Salt was manufactured in the Jhajjar tahsil at Zahdpur (Khara Asadpur). The works formed a part of the cluster of manufactories round a group of villages known as Sultanpur *mahal* in the Rohtak and Gurgaon districts. Sultanpur salt was of a fair quality and its analysis conducted in 1905 showed it to contain 93.6 per cent of sodium chloride. Other ingredients were magnesium and calcium salts with traces of iron.

**Glass bangles.**—There were about 30 families of *kacheras* engaged in this industry in Dawla in the Jhajjar tahsil, who produced bangles of rough slag glass, made by smelting alkaline earth found in Gurgaon and Mathura. The artisans in Rohtak and also in Gurgaon were all Hindus whereas in other districts of the Punjab, Muslims made bangles.

Besides the above, a sweetmeat called *reori* of Rohtak, hand fans (*pankhas*) and hackeries of Bahadurgarh, and the woollen blankets of the district are also worth mentioning. A few manufacturers at Rohtak are still engaged in preparing *reori* on a commercial scale.

*Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1883-84, also mentions utensil-printing which looked like gold embroidery, wood carving (doors and door panels) and a peculiar kind of stamped cloth in gold and silver being made at Kharak, a village near Kalanaur.

**Industrial progress since the Partition.**—The Partition shattered the entire economic structure of the Punjab. It resulted in an unequal and unfavourable division of resources and manpower. East Punjab had to start its career with poor industrial resources and a disrupted economy. The Rohtak district as a part of it could not escape the adverse effects of this calamity. The emigration of Muslim craftsmen who formed the backbone of village industries, gave a serious blow to the rural industries and brought about their virtual extinction. On the other hand, the inflow of displaced persons in large numbers posed an immediate problem of their rehabilitation. Happily, the joint efforts of many brave, sturdy and enterprising persons migrating from



Jhang, Muzaffargarh, Lyallpur and Multan to this district coupled with Government assistance, resulted not only in their own speedy resettlement but also gave the district a conspicuous place in the industrial map of the East Punjab. The tempo of progress was accelerated by the State Government through a number of schemes, introduced for the rehabilitation of displaced persons. The establishment of two industrial areas in the district, one at Sonapat and the other at Bahadurgarh, helped in the drive towards industrial advancement. It also generated interest among the local people for participation in industrial enterprise. The Government acquired 148.5 acres of land at Sonapat and 103.7 acres at Bahadurgarh for the proposed industrial areas. Plots of different sizes, ranging from one *kanal* to five acres, were laid out. The industrial area at Sonapat and Bahadurgarh had 123 plots and 85 plots respectively. These plots were sold on freehold basis and on easy terms. No distinction was made between displaced and non-displaced persons with regard to the allotment. An era of unprecedented progress and prosperity was ushered in the Rohtak district.

A number of new small-scale and large-scale industries connected with bicycle parts, assembling of complete bicycles, hand tools, barbed-wire, sewing machine parts, automobile parts, bolts and nuts, steel re-rolling, glass and ceramics, rubber goods, food processing, paints and varnishes and cotton textiles sprang up all over the district. Its proximity to Delhi which is a great market for consumer goods, gives the district an advantageous position and has greatly contributed to its industrial growth.

### SOURCE OF POWER

It has always been recognized that the presence of water power is an industrial asset. The district lacked the facility of hydel power before 1947 and used diesel power for flour grinding, oil seeds crushing, *dal* grinding, rice husking, grain grinding and saw milling industries.

Three thermal stations existed in the district before the introduction of hydroelectric power. With the availability of hydroelectric power on a more extensive scale, the use of thermal stations is on the wane.

**Bahadurgarh Thermal Station.**—The Government established a thermal station at Bahadurgarh in 1951. It was closed in 1953 when hydroelectric power became available to the town.

**Sonepat Power Station.**—Sonepat Electric Supply Company established a power station at Sonepat in 1939 but it was closed in 1953 when hydroelectric power became available to the town.

**Rohtak Thermal Station.**—The power supply to Rohtak town was given by the South Punjab Electric Corporation (Private) Limited which established a thermal station in 1934. The supply was switched over to hydroelectric power from Bhakra Nangal generation when bulk power was given to the Corporation in 1955. The thermal station was consequently switched off. The licence of the Corporation expired in 1964 after which Punjab State Electricity Board took over all the assets and liabilities of the Corporation after due compensation and became responsible for supply to the town.

In 1967, after the formation of the Haryana State, the hydroelectric power supply to the district came to be controlled by Rohtak and Delhi Divisions of the Haryana State Electricity Board. There were five 33 KV substations at Bahadurgarh, Sonepat, Rohtak, Sampla and Jhajjar. The power actually used was 537.98 lakh units in 1966-67.

### NEW MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES :

There was no possibility of starting any basic industries owing to lack of mineral resources in the district. Only *kankar* which forms the raw material for the manufacture of cement is excavated at Kaliawas and Birohar in the Jhajjar tahsil. It is mostly supplied to the cement factory at Dadri. The excavation of *kankar* in 1966 amounted to 39,634 metric tonnes.

In the First and Second Five-Year Plans most of the development was in the small-scale sector. In the Third Five-Year Plan, the development of large-scale sector became conspicuous. In 1966, the following factories were operating in the district :—

**Haryana Co-operative Sugar Mills Limited, Rohtak.**—This unit was established in 1956 on a co-operative basis with a capital investment of Rs. 1 crore. Sugarcane is available in the neighbouring areas in abundance and it is brought to the mill in bullock carts and trucks. On an average 868 persons were employed in the factory during 1965-66. It produced sugar worth Rs. 1.20 crores and Rs. 2.10 crores in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

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1. The statistics given in this section are based on the reports of the Department concerned or the industries concerned.



**The Atlas Cycle Industries Limited, Sonapat.**—It was the first large-scale unit to be established in the district in 1952 with a capital investment of Rs. 1.30 crores. It manufactures bicycles and bicycle components and parts. The progress of the unit reveals in a nut-shell the progress of bicycle manufacture in the whole of India. The bicycles manufactured here are exported to various countries. The export during 1965-66 was to the tune of Rs. 10.10 lakhs. The average employment in the factory during 1966 was 3,238 persons. It produced 3,60,205 bicycles in 1965 and 3,61,192 in 1966. The sales of the company during 1966 amounted to Rs. 534 lakhs.

**H.R. Bhalla and Sons Private Limited, Bahadurgarh.**—This unit was established in 1955 with a capital investment of Rs. 2.82 lakhs in the Industrial Area, Bahadurgarh. The unit manufactures bicycle frames, forks, mudguards, chain-wheels, pedals, brakes and handles. The rest of the items are purchased from the market to assemble complete bicycle. The raw material constitutes mild steel sheets and pipes. The bicycles are sold mainly in the markets of Calcutta, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The average employment of the unit during 1965-66 was 23 persons. Its production was worth Rs. 3.70 lakhs and Rs. 2.15 lakhs in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

**The Milton Cycle Industries Limited, Sonapat.**—This unit was established in 1963 for the manufacture of bicycle parts with a capital investment of Rs. 15.88 lakhs. This unit is functioning as an ancillary to the Atlas Cycle Industries Limited, Sonapat, for the supply of free-wheels and chains. The unit employed 307 persons in 1965-66. Its production was worth Rs. 27.85 lakhs and Rs. 40.06 lakhs during 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

**Bharat Steel Tubes Limited, Ganaur.**—It is one of the largest steel tube mills in the country and is located at Ganaur in Sonapat tahsil, about 35 miles from Delhi, near the Grand Trunk Road. The plant has been erected on a site covering about 130 acres. It has a built-in area of over 2,00,000 square feet and accommodates two complete tube-mills and the related galvanising and finishing equipment. The mills have an annual capacity of more than 1,00,000 tonnes of pipes of 1/2" to 6" diameter for the conveyance of gas, water, oil and petroleum. The plant is designed and installed to cause a uniform product flow from the incoming strip to the finished tubing and to manufacture pipes according to the most modern technique of electric resistance welding.

Started as the most modern plant of its type, it is a striking symbol of outstanding achievement and co-operation between the United States of America and India. This project involves a capital outlay of more than Rs. 5 crores. The Industrial Finance Corporation of India and the Agency for International Development, Washington (U.S.A.) have financed the project by advancing rupee and foreign currency loans.

This project was set up in a record time of less than eighteen months. The mills started production in the last quarter of 1965 and within a short period of commencement of production, the Company has started earning foreign exchange by exports to various foreign countries including U.K. and Australia. The total sales turn-over during 1966 was more than Rs. 2 crores out of which the value of exports alone was Rs. 50 lakhs. The average employment at the mills for single shift working was 520.

With urgent emphasis on the development of minor irrigation, electrification schemes and industrialisation in the Fourth Five-Year Plan, the plant will play an important role in the economic development of the country.

**Hindustan Dowlat Tools Limited, Sonapat.**—The unit was established in 1964 with a capital investment of Rs. 42.12 lakhs for the manufacture of hand tools. This is an Indo-German collaboration concern and is fitted with an excellent automatic plant. The average employment in 1965-66 was 148 persons and its production was worth Rs. 21.94 lakhs and Rs. 63.48 lakhs in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively. The export during 1965-66 was worth Rs. 15.46 lakhs.

**Bawa Iron and Steel Works Limited, Sonapat.**—This unit was established in 1953 in the Industrial Area, Sonapat. The manufacturing of steel wires and re-rolling was introduced in the district by this unit. The average employment of the unit during 1965-66 was 60 persons and it re-rolled 2,902 metric tonnes and 1,286 metric tonnes of steel in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

**Hindustan Engineering Works, Bahadurgarh.**—The unit was established in 1959 with a capital investment of Rs. 10.50 lakhs for the manufacture of cycle parts, spokes and nipples. The average employment of the unit was 20 persons in 1965-66 and its production was worth Rs. 7.32 lakhs and Rs. 9 lakhs in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

**Mediratta Engineering Corporation, Bahadurgarh.**—The unit was established in 1955 with a capital investment of Rs. 1.31 lakhs for the manufacture of machine tools. The average employment of the unit



was 75 persons in 1965-66 and its production was worth Rs. 2.64 lakhs and Rs. 3.04 lakhs during 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

**Hindusthan Twyforde Limited, Bahadurgarh.**—The Hindusthan Twyforde Limited established their factory at Bahadurgarh in 1960 for the manufacture of vitreous china sanitary-ware and accessories. The pilot production was started in July 1962 and gradually thereafter the tunnel kilns operating on furnace oil were put into commission and the production increased to 3,000 metric tonnes per annum. Starting with a capital investment of Rs. 1.25 crores, the factory along with residential quarters is spread over an area of 55 acres.

The raw-material comprises mainly different types of clays, quartz and felspar and is obtained from nearby sources though some specialized clay comes from a distance. The sanitary-ware industry requires semi-skilled and skilled labour throughout the production operations. The wares after casting and up to the time they are placed on kiln cars for firing have to be carefully handled as the least amount of shock or knocking can cause damage.

Hindusthan Twyforde is the pioneer in India in vitreous china which is most hygienic. Its products are sold throughout India and have also entered the export market at a modest scale. The mark of the Indian Standards Institute promotes the sale of its products. The average employment of the factory was 542 persons and its production was worth Rs. 74 lakhs and Rs. 85 lakhs in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively. It is contemplated to increase the capacity of the kiln to a very considerable extent in the near future.

**Hindusthan National Glass Manufacturing Company Limited, Bahadurgarh.**—This unit was established in 1964 for the production of glass bottles and pressed tumblers with a capital investment of Rs. 81 lakhs. The raw-material used is silica sand, felspar, barytes, limestone and marble powder. It is obtained from Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The glass bottles for Delhi Milk Supply Scheme and Coca-Cola Organization constitute the main consumption of its finished goods in Northern India. The unit employed 501 persons in 1965-66. The production was worth Rs. 67.51 lakhs and Rs. 87 lakhs in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

**Indian Rockwool Company Private Limited, Sonapat.**—This unit was established in 1961 with a capital investment of Rs. 13.16 lakhs for the manufacture of glass and mineral wool (rockwool) products. The rockwool is used in thermos bottles and refrigerators. The raw

material used is waste glass pieces. The unit meets the defence requirements of glass wool products to a great extent. The average employment of the unit during 1965-66 was 71 persons. Its production was worth Rs. 5.62 lakhs and Rs. 1.27 lakhs in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

**Aggarwal Glass Company, Sonapat.**—This unit was established in 1955 with a capital investment of Rs. 46,000 for the production of glass phials and glass bottles of various sizes. The average employment of the unit during 1965-66 was 212 persons. Its production was worth Rs. 5.72 lakhs and Rs. 5.43 lakhs in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

**Organo Chemical Industries, Sonapat.**—This unit was started in 1957 on a small-scale basis for the reclamation of rubber. The production shot up from Rs. 16.60 lakhs in 1963-64 to Rs. 26.40 lakhs in 1965-66 after which this organization was stepped up to a large-scale unit. During the Indo-Pakistan conflict, it was considerably handicapped for want of imported chemicals but as a result of research import substitutions were developed which not only solved their immediate problems but also avoided the necessity of further imports of those chemicals. Wealth is being produced from waste. The capital investment of the unit was Rs. 9.93 lakhs and its average employment during 1965-66 was 198 persons. The production was worth Rs. 22.53 lakhs and Rs. 26.40 lakhs in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

**Mohan Spinning Mill, Rohtak.**—The mill was established in August 1963 and is located on the Circular Road, Rohtak. It was started with a capital investment of Rs. 78 lakhs for the spinning of yarn from cotton. Cotton is procured from Punjab, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh and the cotton yarn produced in the mill is sold throughout Punjab, Haryana and Delhi.

The average employment was 501 persons during 1966. Its production was worth Rs. 75.26 lakhs and Rs. 102.27 lakhs during 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

**Oils and Allied Private Limited, Sonapat.**—The unit was established in 1965 at Sonapat for the production of rice bran and other extracted oils. The capital investment of the unit was Rs. 11 lakhs. The average employment during 1965-66 was 49 persons and its production was worth Rs. 21.22 lakhs and Rs. 30.57 lakhs in



1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively. The export of oil was worth Rs. 1.95 lakhs.

**Seth Ram Narain Flour Mills, Bahadurgarh.**—This roller flour mill was established in 1963. It is situated in the industrial area along the Delhi-Rohtak road. The capital investment of the unit was Rs. 5 lakhs. The average employment during 1965-66 was 24 persons and its production was worth Rs. 8.8 lakhs and Rs. 6.18 lakhs in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

**Ved Lakshmi Oil and Flour Mills, Rohtak.**—The mill was established in 1957 with a capital investment of Rs. 2.85 lakhs. The average employment of the unit in 1965-66 was 51 persons and its production was worth Rs. 31.61 lakhs.

Besides the above, the following two outstanding units are likely to come up in the near future :—

**Electrical Construction and Equipment Company Limited, Sonapat.**—The unit has been licensed for the manufacture of transformers and air-space breakers. The construction of the factory building is in progress. This unit is likely to save considerable foreign exchange.

**Angli (India), Sonapat.**—The unit is proposed to be set up with Indo-British collaboration for the manufacture of ready-made garments. The unit has acquired land at Sonapat for the construction of a factory.

### Small-scale Industries

**Agricultural implements and machine tools.**—This is an important industry and it has made a steady increase in the production of agricultural implements and machine tools. There is a great scope for the manufacture of agricultural implements in view of the special stress laid by the Government on agricultural production. There is a concentration of such units at Sampla but new units are coming up in Sonapat sub-division as well. The production of machine tools is also progressing and several units have come up at Bahadurgarh and Sonapat.

In 1965-66 there were altogether 146 units engaged in manufacturing agricultural implements and machine tools. Their production was worth Rs. 38.64 lakhs and they employed on an average 737 persons.

**Cycle parts.**—This is an important ancillary industry which got special impetus due to the location of the Atlas Cycle Industries at Sonapat. The industry has reached practically a saturation point

and there does not appear to be any scope for further development. The number of units for manufacturing cycle parts decreased to 4 during 1965-66 with an average employment of 142 persons. The production during 1965-66 was worth Rs. 8.13 lakhs.

**Sewing machine parts.**—The sewing machine parts industry is another important light engineering industry. Due to keen competition in the market, the industry remained more or less static and in 1965-66 there were only 3 units with an average employment of 10 persons. The production was worth Rs. 1.33 lakhs.

**Steel re-rolling.**—Though there is a great market for the re-rolled steel due to an overall spurt in the construction work, the industrial units in the small-scale sector have not registered adequate progress. In 1965-66, there were 2 units with an average employment of 44 persons. The production during that year was 1,014 metric tonnes.

**Water pipe fittings.**—This is a new industry in the State and a unit for the construction of water pipe fittings was established in 1964-65. The unit employed 23 persons and its production was worth Rs. 5.14 lakhs.

**Bolts and nuts.**—Rohtak specializes in the production of precision turned parts. Components of automobiles, refrigerators, etc., are also manufactured. There were 7 units employing about 168 persons in 1965-66. Their production was worth Rs. 15.93 lakhs.

**Electrical goods.**—The industry has stepped up its production considerably during 1965-66 and there is scope for further expansion due to liberalisation of import of non-ferrous metals. The existing units working at many places in the district manufacture cables and other electrical goods. There were 12 units employing about 162 persons and their production was worth Rs. 17.47 lakhs during 1965-66.

**Scientific instruments.**—The manufacture of scientific instruments started in 1960-61 and there was concentration of 4 units at Bahadurgarh. There are prospects of further development of this industry. The 4 units employed about 44 persons in 1965-66 and their production was worth Rs. 4.42 lakhs.

**Surgical instruments and hospital wares.**—Stainless steel is used for the manufacture of surgical instruments. The industry suffered due to the scarcity of stainless steel and many of such units were closed in 1965-66. Enamel wares for hospitals are, however, manufactured.



There were 7 units working for the production of hospital wares with an average employment of 87 persons and their production was worth Rs. 5.30 lakhs.

**Powerloom weaving (woollen, cotton and art silk).—**Cotton yarn, velvet, *niwar*, tape and *soot gola* are the main items which are manufactured. *Niwar* and tape weaving are mainly confined to Sonapat. Besides, there are some units at Rohtak and Bahadurgarh which undertake the manufacture of bed sheets, art silk, etc. There were 14 units employing 96 persons and the production was worth Rs. 6.98 lakhs during 1965-66.

**Rubber goods.—**The district has made a considerable headway in the production of rubber goods during 1965-66 and the tempo of production is likely to continue unabated. Rubber belting, rubber tubes, rubber sheeting and rubber auto goods figure prominently in the production. The concentration of these units is at Bahadurgarh and Sonapat. There were 9 units in 1965-66 employing 126 persons. The production during the year was worth Rs. 28.07 lakhs.

**Automobile parts.—**This is an expanding industry and many units are coming up for the manufacture of automobile parts. The existing units are increasing their production and some new units are also being established. Besides traditional casting, malleable casting is also proposed to be undertaken by one of the newly established units. In 1965-66, there were 16 units with an average employment of 273 persons and their annual production was Rs. 28.47 lakhs.

**Plastic goods and bakelites.—**The production of plastic and bakelite goods has gone up but due to keen competition, the margin of profit has dwindled which is acting as a sort of deterrent. One of the new units has started the manufacture of plastic crockery which is likely to become very popular. In 1965-66, there were 11 units employing 73 persons. The total production was worth Rs. 14.17 lakhs.

**Paints and varnishes.—**During the past few years, the industry has made a spectacular headway. There were 12 units for the manufacture of paints and varnishes and these employed 97 persons. The total production during 1965-66 was worth Rs. 21.03 lakhs.

**Typewriters.—**A unit at Bahadurgarh was started in 1965-66 for the manufacture of portable typewriters with a capital investment

of Rs. 1.32 lakhs. This is the only small-scale industrial unit in the country for the manufacture of portable typewriters. It is an Indo-German collaboration concern which has plans of expansion in the near future. In 1965-66, the number of persons employed was 38 and the production was worth Rs. 1.45 lakhs.

There are many other industries in the small-scale sector running in the district. It is not possible to detail them all. However, detailed information industry-wise about the number of units, average employment and production during the years 1963-64, 1964-65 and 1965-66, given at Table XVI of Appendix, shows that industry is making headway in the district.

### Cottage Industries

**Handloom weaving.**—Handloom weaving is an important industry in the district and there are weavers almost in every village. The industry gave employment to about 3,089 persons in 1966. There were 68 co-operative societies of handloom weavers functioning in the district which procured yarn collectively.

**Leather tanning.**—It is an old cottage industry which continues to function in villages and urban areas. Tanning is mostly done by Khatiks and Rehgars and the main centres are Rohtak, Sonapat, Maham and Jhajjar. Efforts are being made to organize this activity on a co-operative basis. It is estimated that more than 246 persons were engaged in this industry and they tanned about 5.20 lakhs hides during 1965-66.

**Shoes and leather goods.**—This is an important cottage industry mostly in the hands of Harijans. There were 4,178 units employing 5,001 persons in 1966. The co-operative societies of shoemakers numbered 106. An effort is being made to bring all shoemakers of the district in the co-operative fold.

**Oil-seeds crushing.**—It is an important seasonal industry. Most of these units are of composite type and carry on this industry along with other various items of production. The main centres are Rohtak, Bhadurgarh and Sonapat. There were 54 units out of which 29 were organized on a co-operative basis. The production during 1965-66 was worth Rs. 0.69 lakh.

**Rope and ban making.**—There were 316 units employing about 428 persons engaged in the production of rope and ban. The production during 1965-66 was worth Rs. 1.52 lakhs.



**Gur and Khandsari.**—There were 391 units employing 426 persons engaged in the production of *gur* and *khandsari*. The co-operative societies in this industry were 27. The total production of the industry was worth Rs. 12.82 lakhs.

**Jail Industries.**—These have also developed. During the period between 1960 and 1966 the total output has increased from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 98,148.

#### Government Assistance to Industries

The industrial development of the district is looked after by the District Industries Officer, Rohtak, who is controlled by the Director of Industries, Haryana, at Chandigarh. He is assisted by 1 Assistant District Industries Officer stationed at Sonapat, 1 Senior Inspector, 6 Junior Inspectors and 15 Block Level Extension Officers (Industries).

The Government helped the entrepreneurs in a number of ways; by financial assistance, through the supply of machinery on hire-purchase basis and raw material at controlled rate, by marketing assistance and technical training.

**Financial assistance.**—The Department of Industries continues to provide financial assistance in the form of loans and subsidies under the provisions of the Punjab State Aid to Industries Act, 1935, for the development of industries. The following amounts were advanced in the district during 1963-64 to 1965-66:—

Year	Loan	Subsidy
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1963-64	2,33,000	6,000
1964-65	3,70,450*	10,850
1965-66	2,71,200*	5,175

The provisions of the Punjab State Aid to Industries Act, 1935, were, however, substantially liberalised after the Partition of the country. A new

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\*Rs. 65,000 and Rs. 99,950 were also advanced to ex-goldsmiths to rehabilitate them in some productive capacity in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

scheme of advancing loans up to Rs. 1,000 against a certificate of credit-worthiness was introduced for the benefit of village artisans and craftsmen. The amount of allocations under this head was substantially enhanced. The Punjab Khadi and Village Industries Board, Chandigarh, also advanced loans and grants for the promotion of village industry. The amount given during 1963-64 to 1965-66 is given in Table XVII of Appendix.

The Government has established the Haryana Financial Corporation for financial assistance to large and medium scale industries. The State Bank of India has also extended to small-scale concerns in the district the scheme of advancing loans against the security of raw-material and finished goods.

**Supply of machinery on hire-purchase basis.**—The National Small Industries Corporation, an agency founded and controlled by Government of India, supplies machinery to small-scale units on the recommendations of State Government. The cost of the machinery and equipment is realized in easy instalments, spread over a number of years, after an initial payment of 20 to 40 per cent of the amount.

**Supply of raw-material.**—The supply of raw-materials<sup>1</sup> like iron and steel, coal, coke, copper and zinc, is regularly made to quota-holders and deserving industrialists after proper assessment of their requirements. The requirements of the industrialists for imported raw-material and equipment are assessed by the State Government and recommendations made to the Central Government for import licences.

**Marketing assistance.**—To provide marketing facilities to cottage and small-scale concerns, the State Government has started a number of emporia where products of these industries are displayed for sale. The State Government also organises industrial exhibitions from time to time to achieve higher standards of workmanship.

**Quality marking.**—The Quality Marking Centre for engineering goods was established at Sonapat in 1962 with the object of drafting standards for raw-materials, semi-finished goods and end-products and ensuring conformity through quality control by stage and final inspections. This Centre also renders assistance to units manufacturing engineering goods. About 60 units are registered with it for

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1. Pig iron and coal were decontrolled in 1965-66. Later in February 1967, defective and black corrugated sheets were also decontrolled.



assistance in respect of technical standardisation, export promotion and other facilities.

**Industrial estates.**—Two industrial estates, one each at Sonapat and Rai, were established to assist those entrepreneurs who did not want to make heavy investment in factory building. The industrialists were let out sheds of various sizes together with the required power load and they immediately installed the machinery and started production.

Industrial Estate, Sonapat, was established in 1962 on an area of 3.15 acres. It has 18 sheds, 16 allotted to various industrialists and 2 to Quality Marking Centre, Sonapat.

Rural Industrial Estate, Rai, was established in 1964. It is spread over an area of 2 acres and is located on the G. T. road. It has 8 sheds, 6 of which have been allotted to industrial units and the remaining 2 to the Rural Industrial Development Centre, Rai.

**Industrial training.**—The Government has established a number of institutes for industrial training and technical education in the district in order to provide training in various crafts. The details about technical institutes and courses/crafts in which training is imparted, are given in Chapter on 'Education and Culture'.

To provide the latest technical know-how to rural artisans, 4 demonstration parties; 3 for hosiery goods, and 1 for soap making are functioning in Rohtak, Kalanaur, Rai and Sonapat blocks. These impart training for a period of one year.

A community project centre for imparting training to Scheduled Castes in leather goods manufacture is also functioning in the district. It is a mobile unit and moves from one block to another according to requirements. The duration of the training in the centre is one year.

Three rural industrial development centres for blacksmithery and carpentry, hosiery goods, and leather goods were also functioning at Rai, Beri and Jhajjar respectively.

Two heat treatment centres started functioning in 1964-65, one each at Sonapat and Bahadurgarh. These centres supply common facility in respect of heat treatment to various manufacturers of engineering goods.<sup>1</sup>

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1. The Heat Treatment Centre, Sonapat, was shifted to Faridabad in 1968.

### Role of the Co-operative Movement

The co-operative movement has been making a considerable headway in the industrial sphere and the development became more marked after the Partition. The activities of the Co-operative Department are confined to small-scale and cottage industries, as the following table pertaining to 1966 indicates:—

Industry	Number of societies
I Small-scale industries	250
II Cottage industries	253
Leather tanning	15
Handloom weaving	68
Shoe and leather goods	106
Village oil and <i>ghani</i>	29
<i>Ban</i> and rope making	5
<i>Gur</i> and <i>khandviri</i>	27
Pottery	3

The value of goods produced by these societies amounted to Rs. 22.42 lakhs and Rs. 29.27 lakhs in 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

The District Co-operative Industrial Union was registered in 1959. A loan of Rs. 46,875 was advanced by the State Government to the Union in 1959-60 at 2½ per cent interest repayable in 10 years. Besides, a subsidy of Rs. 2,500 was also given for the establishment. The Union supplies cheap raw-material to industrial co-operative societies.

Co-operation as a working principal has been applied in the case of Haryana Co-operative Sugar Mills Limited, Rohtak. This concern was established in 1956 on a co-operative basis with a capital investment of one crore rupees. One half of the investment was subscribed by the shareholders, 20 per cent by the State Government and 30 per cent by the Government of India.

### Industrial Labour

The industrial labour is drawn mostly from villages and most labourers return to their villages after work. The migration of



skilled Muslim labourers to West Pakistan was a set-back to village and cottage industries. This shortage was made good by the Government through its programmes. Displaced persons and local labourers were thus made available in various crafts and skills. The need of developing large-scale and small-scale industries was also kept in mind while opening industrial and vocational training institutes.

The sudden closures of small-scale factories occurring now and then due to non-availability of raw-material and lack of funds caused great hardship to labour but the establishment of large-scale units during Third Five-Year Plan provided a steady employment.

The average rates of wages of industrial workers are as under:

Category	Wages
	(Rs.)
Unskilled	90
Semi-skilled (Grade I)	100
Semi-skilled (Grade If)	115
Skilled (Grade I)	130
Skilled (Grade II)	150

There is no hard and fast rule governing the rates of wages and the principle of supply and demand operates at the time of employment.

The industrial workers have organised themselves into unions. In 1966, the following unions existed in the district:—

1. Engineering Workers Union, Rohtak
2. Hindusthan Twyford Workers Union, Bahadurgarh
3. Bahadurgarh Potteries & General Labour Union, Bahadurgarh
4. Bahadurgarh Mazdoor Sabha, Bahadurgarh
5. Atlas Cycle Workers Union, Sonapat
6. Atlas Mazdoor Union, Sonapat
7. Atlas Mazdoor Sangh, Sonapat

8. General Industrial Workers Union, Sonapat
9. Haryana Co-operative Sugar Mill Workers Union, Rohtak
10. Mohan Spinning Mill Mazdoor Sabha, Rohtak
11. Aggarwal Glass Workers Union, Sonapat
12. Loh Udyog Karamchari Sangh, Bahadurgarh
13. Household and General Mill Workers Union, Sonapat
14. Vishkarma Carpenters Workers Union, Rohtak
15. Ara Machine Workers Union, Rohtak

The welfare of labour is attracting the attention of the Government. The Employees' State Insurance Scheme and Employees' Provident Funds Scheme has been applied with suitable benefit. The industrialists, on their own, are also conscious of the welfare of labour and many large-scale units are providing medical, social, residential, recreational and other facilities. The details of the provisions made for assuring good working conditions under labour legislation enforced in the district may be seen in Chapter on 'Other Social Services'.

**General.**—The outlook of future industrial development in the district appears to be bright. Most industrial concerns are on their feet and have been able to steer through the recession. Hardly any concern of note has had to close down.



## CHAPTER VI

### BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

#### BANKING AND FINANCE

##### Indigenous Banking

Like in other parts of the country, the district has its tradition of indigenous bankers in towns and money-lenders in villages. The former receive deposits, deal in *hundis* and finance trade and industry, advance loans after carefully ascertaining the purpose for which these are required. The money-lenders in villages on the other hand mainly finance consumption.

From time immemorial, the *sahukar* (rural money-lender) has controlled the village economy and the poor peasantry has been at his mercy for all their social and economic needs. In his dual capacity of a money-lender and shopkeeper he has preferred to ensure the agricultural produce as his security. He offered it at cheap rates against the loan and then sold it at a higher rate to individual consumers or in a *mandi*. After 1870, when land became a profitable investment the money-lender began to impose such hard terms in his land mortgages that a mortgage nearly always ended in sale. Government arrested this faulty land policy by passing the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, 1900. The *sahukars* were debarred from acquiring mortgaged lands and were only entitled to their produce. From then onwards till the abolition of the Act in 1950, another class of agriculturist money-lender came to the fore. Land-holders who had become rich on account of high prices, and ex-servicemen and retrenched service personnel who came home with money in their pockets, turned into money-lenders. While the former *sahukars*, deprived of land as a security, could only lend up to the limit of what could be repaid from the produce, the agriculturist money-lender to whom the Act did not apply, could afford to lend up to the value of the land.

The power of the money-lender in the field of rural finance is reduced but not destroyed by efforts of the Government and co-operative agencies. The latter, which came in the field in the first decade of present century, do not have adequate funds to meet the rural requirements of credit.

Besides, co-operative loans are given only for productive purposes whereas a money-lender gives loan for unproductive purposes as well say for consumption, on personal sureties and on the security of produce, land, ornaments or property. Generally, the sum advanced is 60 to 70 per cent of the value of the property pledged. The rate of interest varying from 12 to 36 per cent, is higher for loans advanced on personal surety as compared to those advanced against security. Even the common rate of 18½ per cent is much higher than the rate of 7½ to 9½ per cent on loans advanced by the co-operative societies. The Punjab Regulation of Accounts Act, 1930, insists on the maintenance of accounts, but most transactions in villages are either oral or against ornaments. Various malpractices are employed to defeat anti-usuary laws; promissory notes are obtained for a higher amount than what is actually advanced; even duplicate account books are kept when necessary.

Under the Punjab Registration of Money-lenders' Act, 1938, the business of money-lenders is regulated and they are required to maintain regular accounts. They are also required to get themselves registered with the Collector and get a licence. But all money-lenders do not get themselves registered. In 1966, in the Rohtak district, there were 22 licensed money-lenders in addition to a good number of un-registered ones.

The Government is anxious to provide credit facilities in rural areas through co-operative banks and institutional credit agencies like the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. It also advances *taccavi* loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act XIX of 1883 and the Agriculturists' Loans Act XII of 1884.

These loans are issued for seeds, cattle, agricultural improvements and also under various schemes, viz. Grow More Food, National Extension Service and Community Projects.

Loans are also advanced for the promotion of industries. The Haryana Financial Corporation caters to credit requirements of the industrialists.

#### Joint-Stock Banks

Good banking facilities are available at Rohtak, Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar, Gohana, Sonapat, Maham, Beri and Sampla. The list of



branches of various joint-stock banks in the district is given in Table XVIII of Appendix.

These banks open their branches at places where there is a scope for business. The State Bank of India with its branches at various places is the local agent of the Reserve Bank of India and Government transactions are handled by it in this capacity.

### Co-operative Credit

The co-operative movement started in the district with the enactment of the Punjab Co-operative Credit Societies Act, 1904, and the first co-operative society was registered in 1910. The co-operative movement gained momentum and made much headway with the passage of the subsequent Acts of 1954 and 1961. In 1966, there were 1,507 co-operative societies excluding industrial co-operative societies, of which 958 were agricultural and 93 non-agricultural credit societies.

The agricultural co-operative credit societies include agricultural thrift and credit societies, agricultural multipurpose societies and agricultural co-operative service societies. The primary object of these societies is to assist the farmer to increase agricultural production and to play a major role in the development of rural economy by providing adequate facilities for short and medium-term credit for fertilizers, improved seeds, better implements, for marketing and storage and for extension of advanced agricultural techniques.

The non-agricultural co-operative credit societies comprise urban banks, employees credit societies and others catering to the credit requirements of the non-cultivating section in urban and rural areas.

**The Rohtak Central Co-operative Bank Limited, Rohtak.**—This bank has been functioning in the district since 1914. It has 4 branches at Jhajjar, Sonapat, Gohana and Bahadurgarh.

The bank advanced loans amounting to Rs. 1.36 crores during the year ending June 1966, as compared to 94 lakhs during the preceding year. The working capital of this bank is nearly Rs. 2 crores.

The Rohtak Primary Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank Limited, Rohtak.— Since long-term finance was not provided to the farmers by the co-operative credit institutions, the land mortgage banks were established for advancing long-term loans against land mortgage for productive purposes. The bank at Rohtak was established in 1962. During the year ending June 1966, the bank advanced Rs. 11.31 lakhs.

There are no indigenous high finance agencies in the district like commercial bankers' association or stock exchange.

The number, membership and working of agricultural and non-agricultural co-operative credit societies and co-operative banks are given in Tables XIX, XX and XXI of Appendix.

### Insurance

Private insurance companies covered life risk besides marine, fire, motor accidents and miscellaneous accident risks up to 1956 when the Life Insurance Corporation was established in the public sector. After this only general insurance remained in the private sector. The companies working in the district for general insurance in 1966 were : the Oriental Fire and General Insurance Company, Rohtak, the New India General Insurance Company Limited, Rohtak, the Anand Insurance Company, Rohtak, and the Northern Insurance Company, Rohtak. The Life Insurance Corporation (L.I.C.) also entered the field of general insurance in 1964. It started its office in Rohtak in 1956 with a sub-office at Sonapat. In 1966, it had 22 Development Officers and 291 agents.

The life insurance business and general insurance business done by Life Insurance Corporation during 1962-63 to 1965-1966 is given below :

Year	Life Insurance		General Insurance	
	Number of policies	Sum assured	Number of cases	Premium income
		(Rs.)		(Rs.)
1962-63	3,702	1,87,83,200		
1963-64	2,311	1,15,34,700		
1964-65	1,673	87,12,500	11	260
1965-66	1,967	1,05,11,500	60	3,827



### Small Savings

Post Office Savings Banks and Cumulative Time Deposits, 12-Year National Defence Certificates, 10-Year Defence Deposit Certificates, 15-Year Annuity Certificates, 10-Year National Plan Certificates, etc., constitute the small savings. These schemes were introduced to instil the saving habit among people and to mobilise resources for a developing economy.

The Post Office Savings are generally made by middle class people in rural as well as urban areas. There were 194 post offices providing savings bank facilities in 1966 and these included the head post office at Rohtak, 44 sub-offices and 149 extra departmental branch offices. The following table giving the number of savings bank accounts and the total amount invested during 1962-63 to 1965-66 shows the progress made in mobilising savings:—

Year	Number of savings bank accounts	Amount of credit (Rs.)
1962-63	28,671	1,28,91,881
1963-64	34,523	1,28,61,908
1964-65	43,462	1,49,42,229
1965-66	47,186	1,80,66,704

Apart from savings banks the small saving schemes have helped to collect deposits. The collections made during 1962-63 to 1966-67 are given below:

Year	Total gross collections (Rs.)	Total net <sup>1</sup> collections (Rs.)
1962-63	1,85,79,526	1,26,46,803
1963-64	1,79,69,844	39,13,217
1964-65	1,99,15,987	23,61,650
1965-66	2,32,00,045	33,67,491
1966-67	2,82,68,820	43,17,030

1. The lower amount of net collections is due to withdrawals.

### Currency and Coinage

To start with, people in rural areas in particular had some misgivings about the utility of the introduction of decimal coinage in 1957. Conversion tables were placed at all places of money transactions in order to make things easy for the public. It is, however, now working well. Conversion factor has been given in Table XXII of Appendix. The prefix 'naya' in the designation 'naya paisa' was dropped with effect from June 1, 1964.

### TRADE AND COMMERCE

In the 19th century, trade was confined to movement of grains, cotton, raw sugar, ghee and hides to the nearby markets of Delhi and Meerut (U.P.) by small traders and agriculturists. These goods were mostly carried in large carts. The imports were chiefly cloth, tobacco, sugar, salt and hardware. The position was not much different in the early 20th century. The nature and direction of trade have since undergone change. In 1966, the usual articles of export were wheat, cotton, gram, jowar, bajra, gur, shakkar, oil-seeds, groundnut, cotton seeds, chillies, green and dry fodder. With the growth of industries in the recent past, the district has also started exporting many products like bicycles, bicycle parts, steel tubes, glassware, chinaware, sewing machine parts, rubber goods, buttons, niwar, tapes and medicines. The imports of the district consist of cloth, tobacco, salt, medicines, stone slates, iron and steel, coal, industrial raw materials such as lithophone, dyes, raw rubber, rubber, latex, zinc oxide, sulphur, broken glass, soda ash, cotton yarn, etc. Trade is no longer confined to Delhi and Meerut. With greater use of road and rail transport, the traders have started sending their goods all over the country, especially to Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal. The cattle of this area is in great demand as far away as Bombay and Calcutta.

### Regulated Markets

The Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1961, provides for the establishment of markets for agricultural produce in the State and for better regulation of its sale and purchase. Each village of the district has been attached with one market or the other and the provisions of the Act are applicable to the whole of the area where transactions, delivery and weighment are done. Each market committee has a principal market yard. In addition, there are sub-market yards in the town itself or in adjacent villages. Some of the



sub-market yards are occasionally prescribed for special commodities for facility of working.

There are six regulated markets in Rohtak district. Each of these has a market committee comprising representatives of the whole area. A list of the regulated markets along with their sub-market yards, number of villages covered and the year of regulation is given below. The main arrivals in each of the regulated market are also indicated.

Regulated market	Sub-market yard	Number of villages	When regulated	Main arrivals
Rohtak	(i) Kewal Ganj, Rohtak (ii) New Sabzi Mandi, Rohtak (iii) Kalanaur	82	1941	Wheat, gram, <i>gur</i> and cotton
Gohana	(i) Mundlana (ii) Maham (iii) Sabzi Mandi, Gohana	119	1958	Wheat, gram, <i>sarson</i> , <i>gur</i> , cotton and barley
Sampla	(i) Kharkhauda (ii) Beri	86	1950	<i>Gur</i> , cotton seed, <i>bajra</i> , rice, wheat, gram and <i>sarson</i>
Bahadurgarh	(i) Jhajjar (ii) Sabzi Mandi, Jhajjar	281	1941	Wheat, gram, barley, oil-seeds, <i>gur</i> , <i>bajra</i> and <i>jowar</i>
Sonepat	(i) Pirbhu Nagar, Sonepat (ii) Sabzi Mandi, Sonepat (iii) Murthal (iv) Bhatgaon (v) Jakhauli (vi) Bahalgarh (vii) Shivpuri Mandi, Kundli (viii) Mohana	196	1941	Wheat, gram, barley, <i>jowar</i> , <i>bajra</i> , maize, <i>sarson</i> , <i>gur</i> and vegetables
Ganaur	—	47	1966	Chillies, <i>gur</i> , <i>bajra</i> , cotton and vegetables

The usual course of trade in the district is through the secondary markets called *mandis*, where business is transacted daily. The produce is handled in large quantities and specialised operators perform different services. The sellers receive prompt payment in cash or by *hundls* from the commission agents. These *mandis* serve as assembling points for local produce or produce received from distant markets. Storage facilities are available here. From these *mandis*, the goods are despatched to other consuming markets by the traders.

Uniform market rates have been prescribed in all the six market committees. These comprise five paise per hundred rupees for auction, four paise per unit for filling, two paise per unit for sewing, Rs. 1.50 per hundred rupees as commission charges and 16 paise per hundred rupees as brokerage.

#### Centres of Wholesale and Retail Business

All the regulated and un-regulated markets are centres of wholesale as well as retail business. Certain markets specialise in certain commodities. For example, Sonapat specialises in *gur* and Murthal in chillies.

Rohtak and Sonapat do more wholesale business than other markets. Amongst the wholesale markets of Rohtak town, mention may be made of the Grain Market, Cloth Market, Kath Mandi, and the New Vegetable Market. Retailers are, however, found working side by side in these markets. Kewal Ganj Grain Market is a market for retail business. The chief shopping centres are Railway Road Bazaar, Qila Road Bazaar, Delhi Road Bazaar, Babra Bazaar, Main (Bara) Bazaar, Old Vegetable Market and Chembeli Market.

In rural areas, there are no marketing centres as such except for small shops for retail marketing. Fairs and *melas* being mostly socio-religious occasions do not serve the purpose of retailing agricultural produce.

Cattle fairs are held in various parts of the district. A list of cattle fairs is given below :—

Village/Town	Time of fair
Lakhan Mazra	January
Dujana	January, July
Kharkhauda	January-February, August-September
Rohtak	February, September
Sonapat	February, November



<u>Village/Town</u>	<u>Time of fair</u>
Dulehra	March
Jahazgarh <sup>1</sup>	March, October
Bahadurgarh	March, July-August, October, November- December
Maham	March, October
Sampla	April, December
Gohana	May-June, November
Kalanaur	May, December
Mohana	May
Bhakli (Railway Station Kosli)	April, September
Nahar	June
Chandpur (Machhraulī)	July

An interesting feature is a donkey fair that is held at Beri in February and October every year.

#### Co-operation in Trade

There is a District Wholesale Co-operative Marketing and Supply Society at Rohtak. It does wholesale business of Government supplies of agricultural seeds, sugar, salt, oils, fertilizers, insecticides, agricultural implements, etc. Besides, there are 8 co-operative marketing societies in addition to one co-operative marketing-cum-processing society at Kosli. A list of these societies is given below:

1. The Rohtak District Wholesale Co-operative Supplies and Marketing Society
2. The Rohtak Co-operative Marketing Society
3. The Ganaur Co-operative Marketing Society
4. The Sonapat Co-operative Marketing Society
5. The Gohana Co-operative Marketing Society
6. The Sampla Co-operative Marketing Society

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1. An interesting account of the Jahazgarh Cattle Fair is given in the *Report of the Revised Settlement of Jhajjar Tahsil, 1893*, pp.2-4.

7. The Bahadurgarh Co-operative Marketing Society
8. The Jhajjar Co-operative Marketing Society
9. The Maham Co-operative Marketing Society
10. The Kosli Railway Station Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society

The membership of the co-operative marketing societies consists of primary societies and individuals. These societies facilitate the operations of the affiliated co-operative institutions and perform multifarious functions. They supply seed, manure, agricultural implements, etc., to the members; make arrangements for the marketing and processing of agricultural produce, primarily of its members; maintain godowns, undertake running of warehouses for the storage of produce, and act as an agent of the Government for procuring agricultural produce. They disseminate knowledge of the latest improvements in agriculture among its members and provide a news service to them about the market rates and allied matters. They propagate knowledge of co-operative principles and practices and undertake such other activities as are conducive to the attainment of these objects.

**Consumer Co-operative Stores.**—The Rohtak Central Co-operative Consumers' Store Limited, Rohtak, was opened on July 12, 1963, under a scheme sponsored by the Government of India. By 1966, it had opened 14 branches in various parts of the district. These stores perform an important function by helping the consumers to get their daily requirements at reasonable rates.

### State Trading

Fluctuation in the prices of foodgrains necessitated the adoption of State trading in wheat and other essential commodities. This helped to maintain a price level which was fair both to the producer and to the consumer. The extent of procurement basically depended on the extent of production.

For the purpose of distribution of foodgrains and other essential commodities, the Government sponsored a network of fair price shops. There were 188 such shops in various parts of the district in 1966.

### Market Intelligence

Both the buyer and the seller must be well-acquainted with the



demand and supply position in order to strike a fair bargain. This will mean from the producers' side a regulated flow of supplies to the *mandis*, from the dealers' point of view adequate arrangement for handling the produce and its storage, and on the transport side availability of the right number of wagons or other transport at the required time.

For efficient marketing and right co-ordination of the forces of supply and demand, authentic information about the volume of marketable surplus, prices, arrivals, stocks and movements of the more important agricultural commodities is very essential. Market news about the rates of commodities is disseminated to the public through boards displaying rates outside the offices of the market committees, radio news bulletins, newspapers, etc. Some market committees send daily information cards to *sarpanches* of villages served by them. Besides, the producers are always encouraged to approach the market committees for eliciting information regarding the marketing of the agricultural produce.

### Weights and Measures

During the 19th century the Government standard weights and measures were in common use among the people. Though accounts were sometimes made up with the *map* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  maunds), *barola* (2 seers), and *matkana* ( $\frac{1}{2}$  seer) yet no such actual measures of capacity existed. The square measure was the *kachcha bigha*, three of which formed a Government *bigha*, equal to five-eighths of an acre. The country *kos* was about one mile and a quarter and *tirua*, a distance of an arrow's flight.

Till 1941, there was no uniform use of standard weights and measures. With increase in the commercial and industrial activity in the country, this chaotic state created a sense of uncertainty in trade. This situation made it easy for the traders to defraud their customers. It was to remedy this evil that the Punjab Weights and Measures Act, 1941, which in itself was a corollary to the Standards of Weight Act, 1939, was passed. The metric weights and measures were introduced in the district in October 1958, under the provisions of the Punjab Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1958. To obviate hardship to the public, a transitory period of two years was allowed permitting use of weights and measures which were in vogue immediately before the enforcement of the Act. The old local weights and measures are still on the lips of the villagers but their actual use is disappearing.

The Inspector, Weights and Measures verifies weights, scales, etc., used in trade. He enforces the strict use of standard and authorised weights and scales.

### Storage and Warehousing

In villages, people store their produce in their houses, *kothas* (bins) or in bags. In markets, the *arthiyas* (commission agents) and co-operative marketing societies maintain godowns and charge reasonable rates for storage of produce for the period when the producers are not willing to sell it. The mills and factories maintain godowns in their premises to stock the requisite raw materials.

The godowns maintained by private dealers and co-operative marketing societies were not of desired specifications and as there was no organised storage of grains, the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporation Act, 1956, was passed. It was replaced by the Warehousing Corporations Act, 1962, under which the Warehousing Corporation was established. The Corporation was authorised to acquire and build godowns and run warehouses for the storage of agricultural produce. Accordingly, warehouses were opened in rented buildings in Rohtak and Gohana in 1962 and 1964, respectively, for providing facilities of storage to the people of these areas. The Gohana warehouse could not function successfully and had to be closed.

Bins and cold storages have also been opened in the private sector for storing agricultural and other goods.



## CHAPTER VII

### COMMUNICATIONS

#### General

Prior to its annexation in 1849, the roads in the Punjab were in an appalling state. There were old type fair weather roads serving for the transport of grain to the market, which served well even over the dry river beds during the winter. By 1870, the roads had remarkably improved. In 1879, the district had 54 miles of metalled and 490 miles of unmetalled roads but no railway or telegraph line touched the district. This position lasted till 1910 when two railway lines, namely, Delhi-Bhatinda and Bhatinda-Rewari connected the district with other parts of the country. With the inclusion of the Sonapat tahsil in 1912 the Delhi-Ambala railway line laid in 1870, passed through Sonopat, and thus the Rohtak district came to have a main railway line passing through it. Still another railway line was opened in 1927; this connected Rohtak to Panipat. The line was closed down in 1942 but it was partially relaid between Rohtak and Gohana in 1959 to provide a shuttle service between these places.

The roads assumed some importance after the World War I with the advent of motor transport. Later on after Independence, the policy to develop communications resulted in great emphasis on road development in the district. The position in 1965-66 was that there were 4 railway lines, besides a network of metalled and unmetalled roads.

#### ROAD TRANSPORT

The roads have been classified as national highways, state highways, district major and minor roads and village roads. The national and state highways and the district major roads are maintained by the Rohtak Provincial Division of the Haryana Public Works Department. The district minor roads and the village roads fall under the purview of the Zila Parishad, but due to stringency of funds with the Zila Parishad, and in accordance with the recent policy of the Government, many minor roads also have been transferred to the Public Works Department.

The post-Partition period has seen a considerable expansion in road construction. The district has the fourth position in respect of

road length, Hissar, Gurgaon and Karnal being the first, second and third respectively.

#### National and State Highways and Major District Roads

Before the Partition, 214.3 miles of metalled and 8.80 miles of unmetalled roads were being maintained by the Public Works Department. During the First, Second and Third Five-Year Plans, some new roads including the following metalled roads were constructed:—

##### First Five-Year Plan, 1951—56

Name of the Road	Length in miles
Sonepat-Purkhas Road	8.86
Jharaut-Narela Road	3.18
Murthal-Memarpur Road	3.60
Salhawas-Kosli-Nahar Road	6.31
Ganaur-Khubru Road	4.46
Sonepat-Ratdhana Road	2.28
Kharkhauda-Bhagpat Road	3.15
Sonepat-Gohana Road	17.72
Sampla-Kharkhauda Road	11.30

##### Second Five-Year Plan, 1956—61

Sonepat-Gohana Road (extension)	4.28
Dadri-Chhuchhakwas Road	3.45
Jassia-Sanghi Road	2.00
Rohtak-Jind Road	7.63
Northern by-pass at Rohtak	4.50
Fazilpur Approach Road	0.47
Kosli Approach Road	1.29
Pakasma Approach Road	1.67
Gohana-Khanpur Road	3.00

##### Third Five-Year Plan, 1961—66

Jhajjar-Subana-Kosli Road	4.62
Jhajjar-Badli Road	6.60



<u>Name of the Road</u>	<u>Length in miles</u>
Sonepat-Bhatgaon Road	2.00
Sasroli-Kaliawas Road	6.98
Kosli-Guryani Road	4.60
Approach to Badh Khalsa from G.T. Road	0.95

Thus about 115.50 miles of roads were opened during the last 15 years. The roads maintained by the Public Works Department in the district in January 1966, are given in Table XXIII of Appendix.

A brief description of the more important roads as they were in January 1966 is given below:

**Grand Trunk Road.**—This is the oldest road in the district. It runs almost parallel to the Delhi-Ambala railway line and enters the district from Delhi side at the 15.30 mile. The road traverses through the district and leaves it at the 38th mile. This stretch of 22.70 miles has been connected with the interior through many feeder roads.

**Delhi-Hissar-Sulemanki Road.**—This road was previously known as the Delhi-Multan Road and connected Delhi with Sulemanki Head (now in Pakistan). It enters the district at mile 15.98 and leaves it at mile 67.62. Its length of 51.64 miles, which is totally metalled, lies within the district. This is an important road connecting Rohtak with Delhi. Since the Delhi-Bhatinda railway line ran parallel to this road, it was felt in the end of the 19th century that the latter would be unprofitable. The road was therefore cut up in several places so as to divert traffic on to the railway. But with the advent of motor transport, it assumed importance and was revived.

**Bahadurgarh-Jhajjar-Dadri-Narnaul-Nizampur Road.**—Bahadurgarh-Jhajjar section of the road connects Jhajjar with Delhi-Hissar-Sulemanki Road at Bahadurgarh. The length of this metalled road is 17.49 miles. From Jhajjar, the road goes to Jahazgarh, Chhuchhakwas and then 3.45 miles away from the latter place crosses the district boundary towards Dadri. The road between Jhajjar and Chhuchhakwas is 10.25 miles and between Chhuchhakwas and the district boundary 3.45 miles, and the entire length of it is metalled.

**Rohtak-Jhajjar-Rewari-Shahjahanpur Road.**—This metalled road starts from Rohtak and passes through Jhajjar and crosses the district

boundary towards Rewari at mile 36.72. As it passes through the towns of Rohtak and Jhajjar the municipalities of these towns maintain 2.91 miles of it.

**Meerut-Sonepat-Kharkhauda Road.**—This road enters the district at mile 32.33 after crossing the Yamuna. There being no bridge over the river here, the Yamuna is crossed by ferry at Bhagpat where about 8 rowing boats are provided. The road goes on to Sonepat after crossing the Grand Trunk Road. Of the 11.95 miles of this road within the district a stretch of 8.97 miles is metalled. The remaining portion, viz. 2.98 miles is unmetalled. The road further extends from Sonepat to Kharkhauda and on to Rohtak and this length of 31.20 miles is metalled.

**Muzaffarnagar (Sanauli)-Panipat-Gohana-Rohiakh-Bhiwani-Leharu-Pillani Road.**—This road enters the district at mile 15.10 from Panipat and passing through Gohana and Rohtak crosses the district boundary towards Bhiwani, 19.65 miles away from Rohtak. A stretch of 48.36 miles of this road lies in the district and is metalled. As it passes through the towns of Gohana and Rohtak, the municipalities of these towns maintain 2.72 miles of it.

**Luthiana-Sangrur-Patlala-Jind-Rohtak Road.**—This metalled road, 12.77 miles in length within the Rohtak district, enters from Jind side and extends up to Rohtak proper.

**District minor roads.**—The district minor roads including the village roads are maintained by the Zila Parishad, Rohtak. Such roads can be classified as tarred roads, *kankar* metal roads, and *kachcha* roads. In 1966, the Zila Parishad maintained the following roads:—

Tarred roads	19.17 miles
<i>Kankar</i> metal roads	47.70 miles
<i>Kachcha</i> roads	200.13 miles

The vehicular traffic along the minor and village roads, mostly confined to vehicles with iron-tyre wheels, damages the roads and makes these unfit for fast traffic. The numerous *kachcha* roads under the charge of the Zila Parishad mostly used by carts, are bad. These are usually below the level of the fields and get flooded during the rainy season. Efforts are being made by the Zila Parishad to raise the level of these roads above that of the fields but due to paucity of funds, only approaches to the important roads are taken in hand



each year. Cross drainage is also being currently provided so that the roads can be used during the rains.

The list of roads maintained by the Zila Parishad in 1966 is given in Table XXIV of Appendix.

#### Effect of Floods on Road Transport

In recent years, floods occurring practically every year, have caused a lot of inconvenience and disruption of traffic resulting from breaches in the roads. The following roads were affected time and again during the last few years:—

- (1) Rohtak-Gohana-Panipat Road.
- (2) Meerut-Sonepat Road
- (3) Sonepat-Gohana Road
- (4) Rohtak-Jhajjar-Rewari Road
- (5) Rohtak-Sonepat Road
- (6) Delhi-Hissar-Sulemanki Road
- (7) Rohtak-Bhiwani Road

Immediate steps are taken to plug the breaches wherever they occur and make the road fit for traffic. In order to avoid the recurrence of road breaches in the affected portions, additional culverts are being provided in the raised portions of the roads. Richer specifications, use of stabilised soil base courses and increased thickness of the crust are being employed wherever possible.

#### Vehicles and Conveyances

In ancient times, the means of communication being poor in most parts of the country, life was restricted to the villages. The wants of people were limited. Only on rare occasions, like visits to holy places, they used to travel from one place to another, and that too in groups, on foot taking thereby a long time to complete their outward and inward journeys. Country carts were used by common people in the villages for moving from village to village. *Raths* and *majholls* were maintained by well-to-do persons and big landlords. Ponies and horses were also pressed into service by some people. In the sandy tracts of the Jhajjar tahsil, the chief means of conveyance was the camel.

With the passage of time and improvement in communications, the modes of conveyance also improved. *Ekkas* and bamboo carts

appeared to supplement country carts. Camel carts and four-wheeled cart drawn by bullocks also came into use for transporting passengers and goods. As villages and towns were linked together by metalled roads, better vehicles also came into use. Rubber-tyre tongas, drawn by one or two horses, became one of the swift means of conveyance. Later, appeared cycles, motor cars, trucks, but these did not supplant the slower means of transport. Every kind of transport continues to be pressed into service. The multiplicity of transport is indeed fabulous; so is the range of speed at which people travel. There are *thelas* and hand-carts, horses and donkeys, camels in sandy tracts, tongas, cycles, rickshaws, motor-cycles and scooters, jeeps and station wagons, buses, cars, tractors and tempos (three-wheeled motor transport). The tempo which appeared in this district only a few years ago is now becoming a popular means of public transport, especially in rural areas. This is on account of its being both cheap and a quick means of conveyance. There are no trainways or municipal owned services in Rohtak town, though there is a local bus run by the Haryana Roadways.

The total number of vehicles registered in the district during 1961 to 1966 is given in Table XXV of Appendix.

#### Public Transport

Road transport in this district has not been wholly nationalised. The State transport undertaking does not enjoy monopoly on any route. It has, nevertheless, provided an impetus to private transport companies and due to the healthy competition between the two, the standard of service has improved.

The private transport companies and the State transport undertaking are running services on almost all metalled roads under a joint time and fare table. During 1965 the following companies were operating on the routes mentioned against each :—

Name of Transport Undertaking	Route
1. Karnal Kaithal Co-operative Transport Society Ltd., Karnal	Sonepat-Kaithal via Assandh
2. Karnal Co-operative Transport Society, Ltd., Karnal	Panipat-Rohtak Rohtak-Gohana Kaithal-Sonepat Sonepat-Gohana Murthal-Rohtak Murthal-Jhajjar



Name of Transport Undertaking	Route
3. Rohtak Delhi Transport (P) Ltd., Rohtak	Rohtak-Delhi Rohtak-Chhara Kharkhauda-Delhi
4. Rohtak Gohana Bus Service (P) Ltd., Rohtak	Rohtak-Gohana Rohtak-Panipat Rohtak-Sewana
5. Rohtak Hissar Transport Co., Rohtak	Rohtak-Hissar Rohtak-Jind
6. Rohtak Hissar Transport (P) Ltd., Rohtak	Rohtak-Hissar Rohtak-Jind
7. Rohtak General Transport Co. (P) Ltd., Rohtak	Rohtak-Hissar Rohtak-Gohana Rohtak-Bhiwani Rohtak-Bhiwani via Kahnaur Rohtak-Dadri Rohtak-Narnaund
8. Sunam Transport Co. (P) Ltd., Rohtak	Rohtak-Delhi Rohtak-Sonepat Rohtak-Gohana Gohana-Panipat Gohana-Kheri-Khera Gohana-Maham Rohtak-Hissar Rohtak-Jhajjar
9. Jhajjar Motor Roadways (P) Ltd., Jhajjar	Jhajjar-Kosli Jhajjar-Delhi Jhajjar-Rohtak Jhajjar-Rewari Rohtak-Gurgaon via Jhajjar
10. Kapur Bus Service, Hansi	Rohtak-Hissar
11. Ganjibar Bus Service, Hansi	Rohtak-Hissar

Name of Transport Undertaking	Route
12. Zamindara Bus and Transport Co. (P) Ltd., Rohtak	Rohtak-Dadri Rohtak-Sonepat Beri-Delhi via Dighal-Sampla Rohtak-Sewana Sewana-Jhajjar
13. Rohtak Bhiwani Transport Co., Group 'A', Rohtak	Rohtak-Bhiwani Rohtak-Narnaul Rohtak-Dadri Rohtak-Kahnaur
14. Rohtak-Bhiwani Transport Co., Group 'C', Rohtak	Rohtak-Bhiwani Rohtak-Kahnaur Rohtak-Jind
15. Gohana Co-operative Transport Society Ltd., Gohana	Gohana-Julana
16. Rohtak District Co-operative Transport Society Ltd., Rohtak	Beri-Delhi Delhi-Dujana Delhi-Jhajjar Delhi-Badli via Daboda Delhi-Badli via Dhandasa Jhajjar-Rohtak Rohtak-Jhajjar-Badli Jhajjar-Bahadurgarh Bahadurgarh-Gurgaon Rohtak-Nahar Sonepat-Delhi
17. Ithad Motor Transport (P) Ltd., Delhi	Delhi-Sonepat
18. Rohtak Haryana Transporters (P) Ltd., Rohtak	Rohtak-Sonepat Rohtak-Beri Rohtak-Dadri Rohtak-Bahu Jholri Rohtak-Nahar Rohtak-Salhawas-Kosli Jhajjar-Kosli-Salhawas Beri-Delhi via Jhajjar



Name of Transport Undertaking	Route
19. Lahore Pindi Transport (P) Ltd., Rohtak	Rohtak-Delhi
20. Matinhail Ex-Servicemen Co-operative Transport Society Ltd., Rohtak	Rohtak-Sonepat via Farmana
21. Bahu Jant Co-operative Transport Society Ltd., Rohtak	Rohtak-Sonepat via Farmana
22. Haryana Backward Classes Co-operative Transport Society Ltd., Rohtak	Jhajjar-Farrukhnagar
23. Bhutana Ashoka Co-operative Transport Society Ltd., Gohana	Gohana-Jagsi-Urlana
24. Sonapat National Co-operative Transport Society Ltd., Sonapat	Gohana-Jagsi-Urlana
25. Haryana Roadways	Rohtak-Dabwali Delhi-Gohana Rohtak-Gohana-Khanpur Sonapat-Kaithal Rewari-Jhajjar Rohtak-Loharu Delhi-Rohtak Rohtak-Sonapat Rohtak-Panipat Delhi-Beri Rohtak-Narnaul Delhi-Kharkhauda Rohtak-Nahar Delhi-Sonapat Rohtak-Jind Rohtak-Kosli Rohtak-Kahnaur Rohtak-Gurgaon Rohtak-Kairu (via Bhiwani) Beri-Rohtak Rohtak-Chhara Rohtak-Maham

## Name of Transport Undertaking

## Route

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Rohtak-Badli-Jhajjar  
 Rohtak-Jhajjar  
 Rohtak-Chandigarh  
 Rohtak-Dadri  
 Rohtak-Hissar  
 Rohtak-Sirsa  
 Rohtak-Bhiwani  
 Rohtak-Sampla via Chhara  
 Maham-Gohana  
 Rohtak-Salhawas  
 Gohana-Khera  
 Rohtak-Asthal Bohar  
 Rohtak-Sewana  
 Rohtak-Bahu Jholri  
 Dadri-Jhajjar via Birohar  
 Beri-Bahadurgarh-Chhara

The buses, which start from Delhi and go towards Ambala along the Grand Trunk Road and vice versa, as also those which go from Delhi to Hissar and Bhiwani; or Rewari to Hissar, and Chandigarh to Narnaul also pass through the district.

There is no *deluxe* bus service within the district but the *deluxe* buses from Delhi to Chandigarh, Ambala, Patiala and Nangal pass through it. The station wagons and tempos, which have been registered as taxis, wait at the outskirts of towns for small beats to adjoining places.

### Goods Transport by Road

The goods traffic is handled mainly by private owners. There were more than 1,255 public carriers registered in the district in 1965 as against 130 in 1950. There are two reasons contributing to this phenomenal increase in goods transport by road. First, the rural sector which has been participating on a growing scale in the economic activity, has to rely much more on road than on rail and second, motor transport is becoming more common for shorter hauls. But the goods traffic is mostly unorganized. Efforts to



rationalise truck ownership and operation have not met with much success, with the result that there is a sizeable wastage of resources. Nevertheless, there are two redeeming features. First, the system of booking agencies has developed which provides the operators with parking, godown and warehouse facilities. Second, the private operators have united themselves in the district to eliminate competition among themselves, to regulate the traffic and to share profits.

### RAIL-ROADS

The oldest railway in the Punjab, the Amritsar-Lahore line covering a distance of 32.40 miles with a 5'6" gauge, was opened on April 10, 1862. The section Amritsar to Delhi, passing through Sonapat, was completed and opened for traffic on October 14, 1870. This line runs almost along the Grand Trunk Road. Entering the district near Rathdhana it passes through Sonapat, Sandal Kalan and Ganaur and leaves the district after covering about 16½ miles.

The second important railway line which traverses the district for 35 miles is Delhi-Bhatinda line. It was opened in 1896 and runs right across the district through Bahadurgarh, Asauda, Sampla, Kahrawar, Asthal Bohar, Rohtak, Samar Gopalpur and Kharanti.

The Rohtak-Panipat railway line, opened in 1927, was closed down in 1942 being uneconomic. In view of the recent development of the district and importance of Gohana as a surplus area in foodgrains, a portion of the line from Rohtak to Gohana was re-laid and a shuttle service was revived in 1959. The total track mileage of this line is 20 miles and it passes through Makroli, Jassm, and Bhainswan before reaching Gohana.

The Rewari-Bhatinda line cutting the south-western corner of the Jhajjar tahsil with railway stations at Kosli, Sudhrana and Jharti, covers only a small distance of 9 miles.

The Amritsar-Delhi, Delhi-Bhatinda and Rohtak-Gohana are broad gauge lines whereas the Rewari-Bhatinda line is metre gauge.

The monthly average of inward and outward traffic of passengers and goods during 1965-66 is given in Table XXVI of Appendix.

### Rail Road Competition

With the growth of railways, the roads were neglected as unnecessary till the half of the 19th century. In consequence, the Rohtak-Delhi road was cut up in several places so as to divert traffic on to the railway. But in the 20th century came a reaction and the advent of motor transport led to an appreciation of the value of feeder roads and through highways.

In 1933, the Mitchell Krikness Committee appointed by the Government of India attributed much of the annual loss of railway traffic to the competition from the roads. But during World War II, there was practically no rail-road competition as a considerable number of motor vehicles were requisitioned by the Government for military purposes, and the railways had to carry traffic far in excess of their capacity. The reversal of this advantageous position after the war necessitated a rigid regulation of motor transport in the interests of railways.

After Independence, the Government reached an agreement with the private transport operators by which the relative shares of the Government and private operators were fixed at 50 : 50. Government is now framing a policy by which there will be full co-ordination between rail and road traffic.

For the last ten years, there has been a distinct shift in favour of road transport in the district mainly because of the fact that a large part of the district is rural and is served by roads. Road transport is also gaining popularity because of its frequency of service, speed, cheaper fares and freight rates and other conveniences.

### WATERWAYS AND FERRIES

The Yamuna forms the eastern boundary of the district and separates it from Uttar Pradesh. Ferry service is maintained on the river at four points in the Sonapat tahsil : Memarpur, Dheisra, Barauli and Bhagpat. The ferries at the first three places are being maintained since 1962 by the Panchayat Samitis concerned ; only the Bhagpat ferry is maintained by the Uttar Pradesh Government. The first three ghats are auctioned and the highest bidder is allowed to ply his own boats. The contractor is required to keep the boats in proper condition.



The following details about the ferries will be of interest :—

Place	Type of boat	Number of rowing boats	Annual volume of passengers	Daily load carried (Maunds)	Annual revenue (Rs.)
			(Average)	(Average)	(Average)
Memarpur	Wooden	2	18,000	50	28,000
Dheisra	Wooden	1	2,000	40	9,000
Barauli	Wooden	2	6,000	50	2,000
Bhagpat	Wooden	8	..	..	..

The ferries transport wheat, *bajra*, gram and *jowar* when there is no restriction on the movement of these grains. The imports through the ferries comprise mainly sugar and *gur*. The service also covers the transportation of passengers, animals and cattle and motor vehicles both loaded and unloaded.

### TRANSPORT BY AIR

An aerodrome was constructed in 1942 at Rohtak during the World War II but it was closed down after the War in 1945. At present it is used as a godown by the Public Works Department.

### FACILITIES FOR TRAVELLERS

The Chapter on 'Places of Interest' in this volume will show that though there are places with a certain amount of tourist interest in the district, yet no efforts have so far been made to attract tourists by developing facilities. For people visiting either on business or otherwise, there are *paras* or *chopals* in the villages and dharmshalas and hotels in the towns besides departmental rest houses. Rest houses are maintained by different departments of the Haryana Government for its touring officers.

The village *paras* or *chopal* is an institution of considerable importance in the villagers' life. Generally, it is a pukka building made of bricks or stones, with handsomely carved woodwork, situated in the heart of the village. A dozen sturdy charpoys which appear to be

unbreakable, are placed in the *paras* for the benefit of guests. A fire of dung cakes keeps smouldering all the time and provides fuel for the hookah smokers. Some of the *chopals* are decorated in a rustic fashion with figures of Lord Rama, Lord Krishna, animals like tigers, horses and elephants and objects like railway trains painted on walls.

In the towns, dharmshalas have been provided by the religious minded and generous persons. Recently, some private hotels have sprung up at Rohtak and Sonapat. These cater to the demands of all types of visitors to the district.

A network of rest houses is spread throughout the district. Most of these are located in the countryside. The Irrigation and the Public Works Departments control most of these rest houses; only a few of the rest houses are controlled by the Deputy Commissioner. The Panchayat Samitis also maintain rest houses at a few places. The list of rest houses along with the number of suites and the officers who make reservations is given in Table XXVII of Appendix.

## POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES

### Posts

The post offices were formerly controlled by the Superintendent, Southern Division, Rewari, but in 1927, a Superintendent of Post Offices was appointed at Rohtak who is now in charge of the posts and telegraphs in the district. The figures given below show that there has been a considerable increase in the number of post offices in the district during the last 50 years:

Particulars	1910	1948	1960	1966
Head Post Office	1	1	1	1
Sub-Post Offices	10	15	32	46
Branch Post Offices	44	95	237	308

The names of post offices in the district as in 1966 are given in Table XXVIII of Appendix.

Frequency of mail delivery.—Dak used to be distributed in villages once a week and there were only 44 branch post offices in 1910. But in 1966 about 80 per cent of the villages were receiving mail daily.



To cope with the growth of mail delivery, the mail is carried by buses from Rohtak to Bhiwani, Gohana, Sonapat, Hansi, Jhajjar, Beri and Kahnur and from Bahadurgarh to Dulehra.

### Telegraphs

In 1910, only Rohtak, Rohtak Mandi, Kalanaur, Jhajjar, Beri and Gohana were served by telegraph lines. It was possible to telegraph from all railway stations, but the service was so bad that 'it was quicker to walk than to wire'.<sup>1</sup> The Canal Department also maintained a private telegraph line between Delhi, Rohtak and all main junctions of the *rajbahar* for transmitting departmental information.

Telegraphic facilities have considerably improved since then. In 1966, such facilities were available at the following 27 post offices:—

(1) Bahadurgarh	(10) Jhajjar	(19) Rohtak (Mandi)
(2) Bahadurgarh (Mandi)	(11) Kalanaur	(20) Rohtak (Model Town)
(3) Beri	(12) Kharkhauda	(21) Sampla
(4) Butana	(13) Kosli	(22) Sonapat
(5) Dighal	(14) Maham	(23) Sonapat (Mandi)
(6) Dujana	(15) Murthal	(24) Sonapat (Model Town)
(7) Ganaur	(16) Nahar	(25) Rohtak (Medical College)
(8) Gohana	(17) Rohtak (Head Office)	(26) Salhawas
(9) Gohana (Mandi)	(18) Rohtak (Kanak Mandi)	(27) Kathura

### Telephones

In 1966, 7 telephone exchanges were functioning in the district at

1. *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 138.

the following places:—

Name of Exchange	Year of establishment
1. Sonapat	1950
2. Rohtak	1951
3. Bahadurgarh	1956
4. Gohana	1958
5. Sampla	1958
6. Ganaur	1960
7. Jhajjar	1964

#### RADIO AND WIRELESS STATIONS

There is a Police Wireless Station at Rohtak for receiving and transmitting messages. It remains open for 24 hours by shifts. It is provided with a mobile wireless set fitted in a pick-up van for anti-dacoity and other emergencies in rural areas.

#### General

The above account shows the rate at which the means of communication and transport as well as transmission of news have developed during the last fifty years. This improvement is symptomatic of development in the whole country.



## CHAPTER VIII

### MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

Miscellaneous occupations in rural and urban areas constitute a significant part of the life of the district. These include members of public and defence services and all those working in the fields of education, medicine, law, engineering, transport and domestic service.

#### Public Services

There has been a considerable increase in the number of jobs in the public services under the State Government, Central Government and local bodies. After 1947 several new departments came into being to carry out developmental activities. In 1961, the number of persons employed in public services in administrative departments and offices of State Government, Central Government, quasi-Government organizations, municipalities, etc., was 9,090 (9,058 men and 32 women).

The persons in the employ of the Government and local bodies are given a dearness allowance related to the cost of living. Class IV employees are provided with liveries. Since there are a few government houses, only the seniormost employees are allotted these houses against a deduction of 10 per cent of their pay as rent of the house. Essential services like the railways, police and medical and public health are usually provided with residential accommodation.

Loans for the construction of houses under the Low and Middle Income Group Housing Schemes and for the purchase of vehicles are granted to State Government employees. They are also given an interest-free advance from time to time for the purchase of wheat.

Government employees are not restricted from forming associations or unions to safeguard their recognised service interests. There are several such unions: the Provincial Civil Service (Executive) Officers' Association, Government College Lecturers' Association, Government School Teachers' Union, Municipal Employees' Union, and Municipal Sweepers' Union. There is also an association of the employees of the State Bank of India.

**Defence Services**

The Jats, Ahirs and Rajputs in the district have contributed a large number of recruits to the different branches of the defence services. The district played a prominent role during the two World Wars. In World War II, next to Rawalpindi, the Rohtak district contributed the highest number of recruits (56,036) among the districts of the pre-Partition Punjab. The recruits mostly came from the Jhajjar tahsil where many families could boast of having provided more than 3 recruits each.

The number of military pensioners in 1910 was 866, who were paid Rs. 81,957 as pension. In 1936, their number rose to 6,238 and the amount of their pension increased to Rs. 9,53,011. However, in 1950, the number of pensioners fell to 2,487 and the amount of pension drawn to Rs. 3,45,751. This was as a consequence of the exodus of Muslim Rajput pensioners to Pakistan. The number rose again and in 1965-66, there were 10,730 pensioners drawing an amount of Rs. 10,28,580.

The number of ex-servicemen and the families of serving personnel in 1957 was 25,000 and 10,300 respectively. Tahsilwise figures for 1965-66 are as follows :—

Rohtak	6,796
Sonepat	3,851
Jhajjar	12,009
Gohana	,294

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Total (for district) 26,950

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The Jats, Ahirs, Rajputs, Gujars and Brahmans form an overwhelming majority of ex-servicemen. They are mostly concentrated in villages Asauda, Badli, Chhara, Chimni, Dighal, Dubaldhan, Gochhi, Kosli, Mandothi, Majra, Nahar and Sathawas of the Jhajjar tahsil and village Nahri of the Sonepat tahsil.

A large number of soldiers from this district fought in NEFA and Ladakh when China invaded Indian territories in 1962 and against Pakistan in 1965 when it started hostilities. The



following received gallantry awards for distinguished service on these occasions :—

Recipient	Resident of village/ tahsil	Award	Remarks
<b>Chinese Aggression</b>			
Major M.S. Chaudhri	Dubaldhan Majra/ Jhajjar	Maha Vir Chakra	Posthumous
Sqn. Leader J. M. Nath	Barkatabad/Jhajjar	Maha Vir Chakra	
Sqn. Leader A. S. William	Originally : Chharna/ Jhajjar  (Presently : Karol Bagh, New Delhi)	Vir Chakra	
Hav. Dharam Singh	Gobhana Majri/ Jhajjar	Vir Chakra	
Naik Munshi Ram	Bhadana/Sonepat	Vir Chakra	Posthumous
Jamadar Surja	Bairampur/Jhajjar	Vir Chakra	Posthumous
G.D.R. Sardar Singh	Jasaur Kheri/Rohtak	Vir Chakra	Posthumous
Sepoy/N.A. Dharam Pal	Nirthan/Sonepat	Vir Chakra	Posthumous
<b>Pakistani Aggression</b>			
Brigadier Khem Karan Singh	Bhadani/Jhajjar	Maha Vir Chakra	
Major-General Sarup Singh Kalan	Salhawas/Jhajjar	Maha Vir Chakra	
Major Madan Mohan Singh Bakshi	Sonepat	Maha Vir Chakra	
Major R.K. Bedi	Sonepat	Vir Chakra	
2/Lt. Ravinder Singh Bedi	Sonepat	Vir Chakra	
Major Sat. Parkash Verma	Jatheri/Sonepat	Vir Chakra	Posthumous

Recipient	Resident of village/ tahsil	Award	Remarks
Subedar Khazan Singh	Mandothi/Jhajjar	Vir Chakra	
Subedar Chhotu Ram	Kheri Hoshdarpur/ Jhajjar	Vir Chakra	
Subedar Pale Ram	Daboda Kalan/ Jhajjar	Vir Chakra	

### Educational Personnel

In 1961, the number of educational personnel in colleges, schools and similar other institutions of non-technical type was 5,946 (4,794 men and 1,152 women). By March 31, 1966, this number rose to 6,877 (5,104 men and 1,773 women). There is dearth of trained teachers, especially lady teachers, in the rural areas. Many of the male teachers working in rural schools reside in nearby urban areas mainly because of the non-availability of suitable residential accommodation in the villages. This diminishes their usefulness to some extent as they cannot take a full share in the life of the village community.

As the emoluments of teachers working in Government institutions and other amenities are better than those provided by private institutions, an attempt is being made by the State Education Department to put the staff working in private institutions on an equal footing. Subject to certain restrictions, the Education Department has allowed the government school teachers to engage in private tuitions which help them to supplement their income. Teachers are freely permitted and even encouraged to sit for higher examinations in order to improve their academic qualifications.

The government college lecturers and government school teachers have associations of their own. Teachers in private institutions have also their union, which is known as the Rohtak District Privately Managed Teachers' Union.

### Medical Profession

According to 1961 Census, 1,807 persons including 272 women were engaged in public health and medical services rendered by organizations such as hospitals, nursing homes, maternity and child welfare clinics



as also by Hakimi, Unani, Ayurvedic, Allopathic and Homeopathic practitioners. These also included persons engaged in veterinary services. Private medical practitioners normally dispense their own medicines. Some of them charge consultation fee but generally the cost of the medicines supplied during the treatment covers the consultation fee also. The income of such doctors and physicians varies according to their competence and reputation for efficiency.

Shri Mast Nath Ayurvedic Degree College, Asthal Bohar and Medical College, Rohtak, were started in 1957 and 1961 respectively. With the opening of these institutions, more and more people will receive training in the medical profession and in course of time the number of medical practitioners in the district is likely to rise.

The associations formed in Rohtak town by members of the medical profession are: Indian Medical Association, Rohtak Branch; District Pharmacists Association; District Chemists Association; and District Rohtak Ayurvedic and Unani Sabha. These associations have been formed to disseminate professional knowledge among their members, as also to observe standards of professional ethics, and to promote their social and economic condition.

### Legal Profession

This profession includes barristers, advocates, pleaders, attorneys, law assistants, munshis, etc. According to the 1961 Census, the number of persons engaged in legal services was 315. This number did not show any females engaged in the profession.

During the last decades of 19th century there were only 3 non-graduate lawyers in the whole of the district. Finding the legal field vacant, a few lawyers from other places were attracted to start legal practice at Rohtak. With the spread of education, however, the position changed and the number of lawyers rose from 18 in 1918 to about 200 in 1967.

The district is not very litigious. After the Partition, a special kind of work concerning evacuee property in rural and urban areas had cropped up which is still continuing, though to a reduced extent. The agrarian and rent restriction laws have created a fresh crop of cases between the land-owners and the tenants.

The legal profession, barring a few established lawyers, in the district is not lucrative, especially to the novices. Other things apart, the clients generally prefer to engage a lawyer of their own caste or

one belonging to their own area, and this greatly hinders competition. The exorbitant and excessive increase in stamp duty has also affected litigation. Delays in the final settlement of disputes and the incidence of high taxation and rising prices of daily necessities have also discouraged litigation.

### Engineering Services

The persons engaged in engineering services are mostly employed at the district headquarters in the offices of the Executive Engineers, Public Health Division; Rohtak Provincial Division; Rohtak Division, Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal; Haryana Division, Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal; Rohtak Drainage Division; and Haryana State Electricity Board, Rohtak Division. A few persons also work as engineering contractors and architects.

The engineers play an important role in the development and well-being of the people in the fields of agriculture, industry and transport. The industrial development of the district is coupled with road development, transmission of electricity and other engineering activities. The district has no engineering college, though two private polytechnics in Rohtak town and Government Polytechnic at Jhajjar prepare students for a diploma in engineering.

### Transporters

Transport requires the services of people working on railways, ferries, buses, motor vehicles and all those who drive bullock carts and attend pack animals. In 1961, 6,181 persons were employed in all these transport activities at different levels.

Rickshaw-pullers mostly appeared on the scene after the Partition. Most of them obtain rickshaws on hire and pay Rs. 1.25 to Rs. 2 a day to the rickshaw-owners. Their economic condition is not satisfactory since on an average they earn only Rs. 100 to Rs. 120 per mensem. They have recently formed a Rickshaw-Pullers' Union to safeguard their interests.

Many tonga drivers own their tongas, but tongas are no longer in great demand in towns owing to the availability of rickshaws, though a good many of the primitive type still carry passengers to the countryside. The use of tempo (three-wheeled auto-vehicle) as a cheap and swift means of transport, both for passengers and goods, has gained much popularity during recent years.



Transport workers, viz. drivers, conductors, cleaners, etc., have been employed by transport companies. They are provided with facilities like uniforms, bonus and overtime allowances. Their economic and social lot is better than that of rickshaw-pullers and tonga drivers and they have unions for safeguarding their professional interests.

There are a few private motor cars. The owners usually do not keep chauffeurs but drive their vehicles themselves.

### Personal Services

Among these are included barbers, washermen, launderers and tailors.

**Barbers.**—Their number in 1951 was 2,375 and 3,272 in 1961. It also included hair dressers and related workers. In urban areas the old practice of a family barber has almost become extinct. People go to haircutting saloons for service. In villages, however, the old practice of a family barber is still in vogue and he can be seen on certain social ceremonies. He also attends to his *yajmans* (patrons) at their residence and gets remuneration in kind at the time of harvesting. There is no lady hair dressing saloon in the district as the number of ladies desiring hair dressing is negligible. The wife of the barber called *nain* does some sort of hair cleaning and hair dressing of women in villages.

**Washermen.**—In 1951, their number was 462 which fell in 1961 to 418 but again rose to 700 in 1966 and included launderers and dry cleaners. Washermen mostly serve the urban areas for the villagers do their washing themselves. They generally charge 20 paise per article of clothing. They attend to the customers at their residence. The launderers on the other hand run regular shops and do not undertake home delivery. They charge higher rates. Still, because of their quick and efficient service the launderers are gaining popularity over washermen. The laundry owners employ washermen for washing and additional persons for ironing. Laundering has no doubt become a profitable business. Launderers engage themselves in dry cleaning in winter months and switch over to laundry business for the remaining period of the year. Dry cleaners charge according to a schedule of rates. For example, a woollen suit of 3 pieces is dry cleaned for Rs. 3.

**Tailors.**—Their number rose from 2,194 in 1951 to 5,641 in 1961 and to 6,500 in 1966. These figures include cutters, furriers and related workers. In urban areas the tailors make shirts, bushirts, pants,

pyjamas and suits while tailors in rural areas generally make trousers, *kurtas*, suits and *ghagaris*. With the passage of time the style of clothes has undergone a complete change. The *ghagaris* and *chandras* are being replaced by *salwars* and *kurtas*. In urban areas also the style of clothes keeps on changing with the change in fashion. The tailoring charges vary from place to place and shop to shop depending upon the stitching skill of the tailor and the status of the customers. The usual charges for stitching garments in urban and rural areas are as follows :—

Type of garment	Stitching charges	
	Urban	Rural
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
<b>Gents—</b>		
Shirt	2.00	1.50
Trousers	4.50	4.50
Bushirt	4.00	3.00
<i>Kurta</i>	1.25	1.00
Woollen Coat (with trimmings)	40.00	35.00
Woollen Suit (with trimmings)	55.00	50.00
<b>Ladies—</b>		
<i>Ghagari</i>	..	3.00
Shirt	2.50	2.50
<i>Salwar</i>	1.50	1.50
Cotton Suit (shirt and <i>salwar</i> )	4.00	4.00
Woollen Suit (shirt and <i>salwar</i> )	5.00	5.00
Coat (Woollen)	22.50	20.00

The workers engaged by tailors are paid Rs. 70 to Rs. 125 per month according to their skill and experience. Those engaged on contract basis are paid 60 per cent of the amount charged from the customers.



The employment of such workers on a monthly or contract basis in rural areas is out of the question. Most of the tailors have their own sewing machines and work in their shops and do not ordinarily call on customers.

In the past there used to be family tailors in villages who, besides receiving some cash for tailoring, got food grains at harvesting. They used to visit their patrons to obtain orders but this custom is fast disappearing.

### Self-employed Persons

These include artisans like *julahas* (weavers), *mochis* (shoemakers), sweepers, *kumhars* (potters) and workers like hand-cart-pullers, street pedlars, hawkers, rickshaw-pullers, tonga drivers, railway station porters and vendors.

The *julahas*, the *mochis*, the sweepers, the *kumhars*, etc., are to be found all over the district. Most of them in the rural areas help families in their agricultural activities and on the occasion of marriage and other ceremonies. The sweepers in urban areas, engaged for scavenging, get Re. 1 or Rs. 2 per month from each family in addition to a *chapati* per day and gifts on auspicious occasions.

Tonga drivers, rickshaw-men, street pedlars, hawkers, porters and vendors eke out a hard living. Their number in the district was as follows:—

Particulars	Number	
	1961	1965
Licensed hand-carts/street pedlars hawkers/luggage cartmen	748	947
Station Porters	18	20
Station Vendors	25	40

### Domestic Services

The persons engaged in domestic services include domestic servants, cooks, etc. Their number in 1961 was 8,401 (3,749 males and 4,652 females).

Most people in villages, except the local landlords, do their domestic work themselves and do not employ servants. In urban areas the upper middle class and the rich often employ domestic servants. A

domestic servant is paid between Rs. 30 and Rs. 40 per month in addition to boarding and lodging. With the opening of other avenues which provide increasing opportunities of employment elsewhere, domestic servants are becoming scarce in relation to demand.

Women do not prefer whole-time domestic employment. Some of them from poor families, undertake part-time domestic service to supplement their meagre income. They undertake washing of clothes and cleaning of utensils and are generally paid Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 a month for working one to two hours a day.



## CHAPTER IX

### ECONOMIC TRENDS

#### LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

The people of the district have, from time immemorial, depended on agriculture for their livelihood. In 1891, 57.6 per cent were engaged in or dependent on pasturage or agriculture. In 1901, the population depending on pasturage and agriculture was 61.09 per cent and thus showed an increase of about 3.5 per cent and this was a significant result of the opening of new *rajbahas* during 1891-1901. To this increase we can add another 0.85 per cent, if partially agricultural population is added: Blacksmiths, carpenters and leather workers who accounted for about 8 per cent of the total population were largely subservient to agriculture. Taking all these elements of the rural population together, more than two-third of the population was dependent on agriculture and the economy of the district was centred in the rural areas where it revolved round the agriculturist.

The economy of the villages was largely governed by conditions in which barter prevailed. The village carpenters, blacksmiths, potters, weavers and other artisans received remuneration in the form of a share of the harvested grains. Money, as a medium of exchange was not very current; being used only for the purchase of elementary consumer goods imported from towns.

The only form of capital the cultivators could raise was invested in some jewellery which generally remained out of use, being safely buried. The limited monetary requirements were easily met by selling surplus food grains in a near-by market. Village shopkeepers, who supplied the necessities of life, were mainly paid in kind. Cattle for which the district was known all over the country, also stood the people in good stead in times of need, as they could be sold without difficulty in the innumerable cattle fairs. In the case of more well-to-do land-owners also, the insecurity of the times strongly discouraged the possession of capital in a fluid form. For various reasons land deals were limited in number, and such as resulted from excessive fragmentation

of families and indebtedness of farmers were sponsored by somewhat more affluent land-owners for status rather than prospect of gain. Large-scale mechanised industries, as we know them today, were conspicuous by their absence.

The livelihood pattern in the district did not undergo much change during the opening years of this century. Though the First World War attracted quite a large number of recruits, yet agriculture remained the primary occupation of the district and involved more than two-third of the population. This proportion, becoming numerically greater with the increase in population, exerted greater pressure on the land. The cultivated area increased only by 12 per cent with the addition of 1,56,454 acres during 1931-51. The rural population increased by 35.96 per cent during this period.

The position registered a slight change after 1951. Of the total population of 11,22,046 only about 65 per cent were dependent on agriculture. The distribution of the population in agricultural and non-agricultural pursuits given below shows that production, trade and commerce and other services accounted for the remaining 35 per cent of people :

	Percentage of urban population	Percentage of rural population	Percentage of total population
1. Agricultural classes	14	74	65
2. Non-agricultural classes			
(i) Production	13	9	10
(ii) Trade and commerce	29	5	9
(iii) Transport	3	1	1
(iv) Other services	41	11	15
Total	100	100	100



The total number of people who earned their livelihood was 47.4 per cent of the population. This included 21.8 per cent earning dependents among whom the female earning dependents predominated on the strength of their work in the various agricultural operations.

The remaining 52.6 per cent were classified as non-earning dependents. This category included women who performed household duties and rendered personal services for the members of individual families without any remuneration in cash or kind. The male non-earning dependents consisted mainly of minor children and students.

The category of self-supporting persons formed 25.6 per cent. The proportion of self-supporting females was higher among the non-agricultural classes than among the agricultural classes due to better opportunities for employment.

The agriculturists living in rural area of the district were 74 per cent; peasant proprietors 57 per cent, tenants 8 per cent, agricultural labourers 8 per cent and rent-receiving landlords 1 per cent.

Agricultural classes formed only 14 per cent of the urban population, trade and commerce 29 per cent, other services 41 per cent, production 13 per cent, and transport 3 per cent respectively. Of the rural population, 74 per cent were engaged in agriculture, 5 per cent in trade and commerce, 11 per cent in other services, 9 per cent in production and 1 per cent in transport.

The nature of occupations of those engaged in production in urban and rural areas differed. In addition to the producers of rural area like artisans, shoemakers, carpenters, blacksmiths and potters, the urban producers included manufacturers of textiles, sugar and machinery.

Trade and commerce, the life blood of towns, formed a very distinguishing feature of urban life. The urban population with its higher income spent a large part of their income on a large variety of consumer goods produced in the factories. The pattern of rural living was much simpler with the greatest emphasis on agriculture, production, trade and commerce and other services, being confined to the barest needs.

The census of 1961 classified the population into workers and non-workers. The workers were further sub-divided in the following industrial categories:—

Industrial Category	Males (percentage of male popula- tion)	Females (percen- tage of female popula- tion)	Persons (percent- age of total popula- tion)	Percent- age of the work- ing force
Cultivators and agricultural labourers	30.5	24.6	27.7	71.13
Mining, quarrying, etc.	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.54
Household industry and manufacturing	6.6	2.0	4.4	11.37
Construction	0.7	—	0.4	0.90
Trade and commerce	3.0	0.1	1.6	4.15
Transport	0.9	—	0.5	1.26
Other services	6.1	1.9	4.2	10.65
Total	48.1	28.7	39.0	100.00

The chief activity of the people was agriculture and about 27.7 per cent of the population (71 per cent of the working force) were involved in this sector. Land-holders just receiving rent were classed among non-workers in this census. With the attainment of Independence in 1947 certain essential land reforms were carried out. The intermediaries like *Ala Maliks* were abolished, all occupancy tenants were declared as proprietors and the tenants in general were given security of tenure. One very important result of these land reforms was that many such landlords whose only interest in the land was to receive rents took up cultivation with their own hands in order to escape the provisions of various legislative measures of land reforms. This resulted in the increase of agricultural labourers.

During the last two decades the district has made a rapid progress in the field of industries. These include light engineering, pottery, rubber goods, food processing, paints and varnishes and cotton textile. This industrial expansion has provided employment



avenues in industrial areas and attracted landless persons from villages. About 4.4 per cent of the population is engaged in household industry or in manufacturing.

The steep rise of prices since 1956 has brought general prosperity to the agricultural classes and the manufacturers and this in turn has led to a steady increase in the demand for consumer goods, thus boosting the development of trade and commerce. Trade, along with transport has formed an important sector of the economy of the district.

Most of the employment opportunities for rendering other services of various kinds were in the urban areas and 4.2 per cent of the people were engaged in this sector.

Despite the general progress of industries and other non-agricultural vocations described above, the economy of the district has primarily remained agricultural.

#### **Prices, Wages and Standard of Living**

The outbreak of war in 1914 caused a sudden rise in prices owing to imports being in short supply and the production being adversely affected by poor monsoon and bad harvests of 1915-16. In 1917 commenced a period of distress and hardship in which prices rose too rapidly to allow the economic system to adjust itself. The strain on the railways resulting from the war caused dislocation of communications so that goods from an area of plenty could not be transported to areas of scarcity. The disastrous harvest of 1918 was closely followed by an unparallel loss of life caused by the epidemic of influenza in the later part of 1918. These hardships brought matters to a climax and even good harvests in 1920 proved insufficient to stay the upward trend of prices.

Up to about 1907, the purchasing power of the wages had risen steadily. During the following decade, particularly during the First World War years, there was increase in wages of skilled labour to the extent of 62 per cent as compared to 37 per cent rise in wheat prices. The wages of unskilled labour increased less (14 per cent). The non-working landlords who got high prices for their yields benefited more than the industrialists who paid enhanced wages to their skilled labour. The unskilled labourers in non-agricultural avocations whose wages did not rise proportionately were hit hard; those engaged in agricultural operations fared better owing to the custom of payment in kind.

After the twenties, the wages increased to Rs. 1½ per day for skilled labour in 1922 (200 per cent over 1909 level). This rise in wages was commensurate with the rise in prices, so the skilled labourers were not ill off. The position of unskilled labourers was not as satisfactory as their wages rose to Re. ½ per day (129 per cent over 1909 level). After 1927-28 there was a general trade depression in which prices fell and wages gradually followed suit but this fall was not of the same magnitude as before so that labourers were comparatively better-off during this decade.

The general depression of the thirties brought a slump in the market accompanied by unemployment. The resulting downward trend in the prices of agricultural produce created misery for the farmer.

The World War II broke out in September 1939. It created scarcity conditions in the district. The misery of the agricultural classes was aggravated because of the damage to the crops caused by natural calamities such as rust, gram blight and hailstorm. They got famine stricken. In 1941 with the entry of Japan in the war, the scene of hostilities shifted near India which in turn imparted a fillip to speculation in food grain prices. The Bengal Famine of 1943 and the general transport difficulties all over the country accelerated the upward movement of the price level. There was a slight recession of prices during the following two years due to tightening up of controls and rationing measures. However the general scarcity of food grains and the inflationary factors made the price level to rise enormously. The prices of consumer goods also rose. The trend of prices of food articles was almost similar to that of food grains but the price index of cloth articles registered a greater rise than that of food articles. During the war years there was a fall in domestic expenditure but it was not due to any pressure of high prices but because of general scarcity conditions of consumer goods.

After the Partition the economy of the district was put out of gear; prices rose manifold due to abolition of control and rationing in 1948. Price control had to be reintroduced in 1949. The imposition, removal and reimposition of control over the prices of food grains and consumer goods during the short period of 5 years between 1944 and 1949 reflects uncertain conditions.

In 1950-51 prices rose and the wage increase tended to equalise although the wage increase in the case of unskilled labour was much higher (10 times as compared to 3 times increase in the case of skilled



labour and the wheat prices). Table XXIX of Appendix throws valuable light on the relative increase in wages and prices since the beginning of the twentieth century.

After 1950 the prices fluctuated widely and at the end of 1955 there was a decline of about 20 per cent as compared to the prices of 1950. Prices rose again in the Second Five-Year Plan. There was a relative price stability during the first two years of the Third Five-Year Plan; thereafter prices rose steeply. The position was further aggravated by the drought conditions caused by the failure of monsoon in 1966.<sup>1</sup> The prices of food grains in the beginning of 1966 were as follows :—

Retail Prices in Rupees per Quintal in Rohtak Town

		(Rs.)
Wheat	(i) Dara	52.50 to 57.50
	(ii) Farm	60.00 to 65.75
Barley		55.00
Gram		52.50 to 58.00
Jowar		55.00

The wages of skilled labour during the period have doubled since 1950 and have more than balanced the increase in prices. The normal rates of wages of persons employed in urban area prevalent in 1966 were as follows:—

Particulars of labour	Whole-Time		Part-time	Daily wages
	Pay	Dearness allowance		
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
Gardener	30.00	52.50	30.00	3.00
Sweeper	30.00	52.50	30.00	3.00
Water carrier	30.00	52.50	30.00	3.00

1. The price fluctuations in the whole country applied almost everywhere with small differences.

Particulars of labour	Whole-Time		Part-time	Daily wages
	Pay	Dearness allowance		
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
Carpenter	100.00	50.00	50.00	6.00
Mason	100.00	50.00	50.00	6.00
Tailor	100.00	50.00	50.00	8.00
Cobbler	60.00	—	50.00	5.00
Labourer	—	—	—	3.00
Washerman	82.00	—	30.00	3.25
Grass cutter	82.00	—	30.00	3.00
Barber	60.00	40.00	50.00	5.00
Blacksmith	100.00	—	50.00	5.00
Mason (2nd class)	—	—	—	5.00

There are very few domestic servants and their wages range from 30 to 40 rupees per month in addition to food and clothing. The scavengers are not employed whole-time but they serve many houses and are normally paid two rupees per house in addition to a *chapati* per day. For grazing cattle, a herdsman gets one to three rupees per head per month. The rate is different for buffaloes which are charged higher than cows. Skilled labourers like carpenters, blacksmiths and masons are employed on daily wages. They usually get wages varying between Rs. 4 and Rs. 6 per day. In some professions workers are paid on piece-job basis.

The rural labourers who were paid in kind during this period did not feel the pinch of rising prices so much. The skilled labour in villages and labour in specific agricultural operations which had to be completed by a fixed time, insisted on payment in kind, so as to avail of the benefit of the high cost of food grains. Their standard of living was affected by the price rise only to the extent to which they had to buy consumer articles not produced on the land.

The method of payment in the rural areas varies from occupation to occupation and sometimes from village to village. Occupations such as carpentry, blacksmithery are paid for at piece rates. These are



subsidiary agricultural professions and are intimately linked with agriculture. Though industrial units of the district have attracted many of these workers but due to the conservative nature of village folk, many stick to their traditional professions. Competitive factors have not entered in these professions and the wages in kind are not strictly according to the services rendered to the agriculturists but are largely governed by convention. The carpenter who is responsible for mending wood work of all agricultural implements and also domestic articles like *charkhas* and bed-steads is paid in kind at the time of *kharif* and *rabi*. The blacksmith who is responsible for repairs of all iron agricultural implements is also paid in the same form. Customary duties of supplying shoes, cloth and earthenwares are now no more attended to by *chamars*, *dhanaks* and *kumhars*. They have shifted to casual labour and also resort to seasonal employment in various agricultural operations. In addition to them, other classes with insufficient land or with no land also do casual labour in agricultural operations. Since this is not a permanent employment and is of a seasonal nature more than one occupation is followed by the same person or class of persons. Thus weeding, reaping, ploughing, irrigation, etc., are done by the same person. The method and period of payment and normal working hours in various agricultural occupations are given below:—

Occupation	Method of payment	Period of payment	Normal working hours
Weeding	Cash	Daily	9 hours
Irrigation	Cash	Daily	8 hours
Ploughing	Cash	Daily	8 hours
Reaping	Cash or kind	Daily	9 hours
Herdsmen	Cash (per head of cattle)	Monthly	7 hours

Thus it will be seen that the wages in the agricultural occupations are mostly paid daily except in the case of the herdsman who is paid monthly and per head of cattle. In addition to the cash payments, daily meals in the form of butter-milk, parched grains, one or two full meals and other refreshment are also provided to casual labourers doing weeding, reaping, ploughing and irrigation. The normal working hours are from sunrise to sunset with a break of an

hour or two. The big landlords employ regular labourers who work with them throughout the year. Such labourers are paid in kind and they get a fixed share of the total produce. Labourers like *pakava*, *jhoka* and *muthla* and labourers for harvesting of wheat are paid in kind and get a share of the produce. Twentieth part of the crop of wheat harvested is given to the labourer as his wages and the system is known as *lai*.

Barbers who render traditional services and also do shaving are paid in kind as arrived at through mutual agreement. Some *ad hoc* payment in cash and kind is also made at occasions like marriages and births according to the services rendered by him.

The common rates of unskilled labour are higher than those prevailing in the district of Gurgaon and Mahendragarh but are equal to those in Ambala.

## GENERAL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT

### Employment Situation

The main profession of the district is agriculture which provides only seasonal employment. Considerable avenues in private sector have been provided with industrial development.

Although new development schemes have created sufficient employment opportunities, increase in employment is not keeping pace with the growth of population. In December 1965, 5,630 persons were available on the live register of the Employment Exchange, Rohtak.

For an idea of unemployment, the census of 1961 gives the details of unemployed persons aged 15 and above by sex and educational levels, both in urban and rural areas which may be seen in Table XXX of Appendix.

The problem of the unemployed in the district is varied and complex. Certain trades lack suitable personnel while others have surplus manpower. There was shortage of language, science and mathematics teachers, stenographers, accountants, experienced turners and fitters. The surplus category included ex-trainees of different trades, fresh graduates and people with lower qualifications. The problem of the unemployed can be tackled with the right sort of occupational information and guidance, and provision of sufficient training facilities in occupations in which vacancies exist.



### Employment Exchanges

A sub-regional employment exchange was started at Rohtak in May 1946. A sub-office of the employment exchange was established at Sonapat in May 1948. The working of employment exchanges in the district during 1956 to 1965 is given in Table XXXI of Appendix.

### Employment Market Information

The Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959, came into force on June 1, 1960. It makes a statutory obligation on the part of all establishments in public as well as private sector to notify all vacancies.<sup>1</sup> Simultaneously, the scheme for collection of employment market information was initiated in Rohtak Employment Exchange with a view to making the National Employment Service more effective and useful. The scheme envisages the study of employment conditions and co-ordination of all existing sources of information regarding employment. It also aims at improving the methods of obtaining employment data.

### Vocational Guidance

The vocational guidance unit in the Employment Exchange, Rohtak, started functioning in December 1960. The unit provides vocational guidance and employment counselling to youth and adults. It assists in finding suitable institutional training and apprenticeship facilities and disseminating occupational information to youth, teachers, apprentices and other group of persons. Vocational guidance talks in schools and colleges and at the employment exchange are delivered by the Vocational Guidance Officer.

## PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Haryana has some claim to be one of the originators of community development, and Rohtak is one of the pioneer districts to which the Community Development Blocks at Sonapat, Ganaur and Kharkhauda were allotted in 1952.

It is difficult to analyse and evaluate the results of community projects since no perfect methods for testing performance have been developed. Nevertheless, the object of community development is to improve the whole texture of rural life by originating a self-generating process of change and growth.

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1. In private sector, provisions of the Act apply only to those establishments which employ 25 or more persons.

In 1966-67 there were 15 Blocks as below :

<u>Stage I</u>	<u>Stage II</u>	<u>Post-Stage II</u>
Mundlana	Jhajjar	Ganaur
Beri	Kalanaur	Rai
Salhawas	Bahadurgarh	Sonepat
Kathura	Nahar	Rohtak
	Maham	Gohana
	Kharkhauda	

The programme of community development at the initiation of the Government of India is executed in two stages of 5 years each. Preceding stage I, every Block which has been recognised as a unit of planning and development undergoes a pre-extension phase of one year during which work is confined to preliminary surveys and planning and agricultural development. After the two stages of 5 years each the Block enters the post stage II where the expenditure is the entire responsibility of the State Government. A stage I Block has a budget provision of Rs. 12 lakhs for 5 years while a stage II Block has Rs. 5 lakhs and in these two stages the major portion of expenditure is shared by the Government of India. In addition, funds from the various departments of the State flow through the Block. The Block budget is not rigid and is intended to serve more as a guide for chalking out the programmes based on the desires and aspirations of the local people and their requirements. Considerable measures of flexibility exist in the budget and discretion is given to the Panchayat Samitis to reappropriate funds between different heads to suit the needs of the different areas within certain limitations. The idea behind these stages is to help the villages covered by the Block in making their basic developmental schemes successful during the first 10 years and in motivating the people to implement their other schemes of common benefit by their own efforts.

The number of *panchayats*, villages and population covered by each Block is given in Table XXXII of Appendix.



## CHAPTER X

### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

#### Administrative Division

The Rohtak district, as a basic administrative unit consists of four tahsils namely, Rohtak, Sonapat, Gohana and Jhajjar with its sub-tahsil Nahar.

The number of villages<sup>1</sup> and the police stations in each tahsil are as follows :—

Tahsil	Number of villages	Police stations	Police posts
Rohtak	133	City Rohtak	Model Town, Rohtak
		Sadar Rohtak	
		Kalanaur	Kharkhauda
		Sampla	
Sonapat	241	Bahadurgarh	City Sonapat, Model Town, Sonapat
		Sonapat	
		Rai	
		Ganaur	
Gohana	123	Gohana	Gohana
		Baroda	Maham
		Maham	
Jhajjar	309	Jhajjar	Dujana
		Beri	Nahar
		Salhawas	

1. A village refers to an area for which a separate record of rights is maintained, or which has been separately assessed to land revenue, or would have been so assessed if the land revenue had not been realised or compounded or redeemed, or which the State Government had otherwise declared as an 'estate'. This definition of village is identical with that of *manza* under section 3(1) of the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887. The definition applies to a demarcated area of land and not a residential site.

On the principle of decentralisation of authority in the administrative set-up, the district is divided into sub-divisions, each coinciding with a tahsil area. The object is to promote efficiency in administration. The Sonapat sub-division came into being in 1912 while the remaining three sub-divisions were created in the post-Independence period, Jhajjar in 1955, Rohtak and Gohana in 1964.

The strength of sub-division and tahsil officers is as follows:—

<u>Tahsil</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Strength</u>
Rohtak	Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil)	1
	Tahsildar	1
	Naib Tahsildars	2
Sonapat	Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil)	1
	Tahsildar	1
	Naib Tahsildars	2
Gohana	Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil)	1
	Tahsildar	1
	Naib Tahsildar	1
Jhajjar	Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil)	1
	Tahsildar	1
	Naib Tahsildars	2
Nahar (sub-tahsil of Jhajjar)	Naib Tahsildar	1

#### DISTRICT AUTHORITIES

**Deputy Commissioner.**—The general administration of the district is vested in the Deputy Commissioner, who for administrative purposes, is under the Commissioner, Ambala Division, Ambala. In other words, the State Government's general authority descends through the Divisional Commissioner to the Deputy Commissioner, who performs a triple function. He is at once the Deputy Commissioner,



the District Magistrate and the Collector. As Deputy Commissioner, he is the executive head of the district with multifarious responsibilities relating to development, *panchayats*, local bodies, civil administration, etc. He has a special role to play in Panchayati Raj. In addition to keeping an eye on the working of Panchayati Raj institutions, he also guides the *panchayats*, Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads and helps them to resolve their difficulties and problems. As District Magistrate, he is responsible for law and order and heads the police and prosecuting agency. As Collector, he is the chief officer of the revenue administration and is responsible for collection of revenue and all dues recoverable as arrears of land revenue, and is also the highest revenue judicial authority in the district. He acts as the District Elections Officer and Registrar for registration work. He exercises overall responsibility on other Government agencies in his district. While he co-ordinates their activities wherever necessary, he does not interfere in their internal administration, and the procedures, methods and policies of their departments. He is, in short, the head of the district administration, a co-ordinating officer among various departments and a connecting link between the public and the Government in so far as he executes the policies, administers the rules and regulations framed by the Government from time to time, and also looks after the welfare, needs, and requirements of the people.

**Sub-Divisional Officer.**—The Sub-Divisional Officer is the general designation of the chief civil officer of the sub-division. In fact, he is a miniature Deputy Commissioner of his sub-division. He possesses adequate powers to co-ordinate work in the sub-division. He exercises direct control over the Tahsildars and their staff. He is competent to correspond direct with the Government and departments on routine matters. His main duties, like those of the Deputy Commissioner, include revenue, executive and judicial work. In revenue matters the powers of Collector have been delegated to him. His executive duties pertain to the maintenance of law and order, development, local bodies, motor taxation, passport, renewal of arms licenses, etc. As Sub-Divisional Magistrate he exercises certain judicial powers under certain sections of the preventive chapters of Criminal Procedure Code. Appeal from the orders of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate in such cases lies with the District and Sessions Judge.

**Tahsildar/Naib Tahsildar.**—The Tahsildar and Naib Tahsildar are Assistant Collectors II Grade. While deciding partition cases, the Tahsildar assumes powers of Assistant Collector I Grade.

Their main task being revenue collection, the Tahsildar and Naib Tahsildar have to tour extensively in their areas. The revenue record and the crop statistics are also maintained by them. They assist the development staff in their various activities like execution of development plans, construction of roads, drains, embankments, soil conservation and reclamation, pavement of streets, filling of depressions and disposing of work connected with rural re-construction. They help the Block Development and Panchayat Officers in enlisting maximum co-operation of the people in rural areas to make the *Panchayat Raj* a success.

The Tahsildars and Naib Tahsildars in Rohtak are assisted by the following revenue staff :—

Staff	Strength
Sadar Kanungo <sup>1</sup>	1
Office Kanungos	4 (one each at tahsil headquarters)
Kanungos	18
Patwaris	344
Assistant Patwaris	6

The actual preparation of village records and revenue statistics rests with the Patwaris; hence division of the district into 344 *patwar* circles, each circle being looked after by a Patwari who works under the immediate supervision of the Kanungo<sup>2</sup> concerned.

The Lambardar is another important functionary in the administration. He is responsible for the collection of land revenue. In addition to his duties of land revenue collection, the Lambardar looks after the law and order in his area and any breach thereof is reported by him to the nearest police station and to the Deputy Commissioner's agency. He is assisted in his work by the village chowkidar. The Lambardar is paid *pachotra* at the rate of 5 per cent of the land revenue.

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1. He is in charge of the district headquarters record room and exercises general supervision over the maintenance of revenue record.

2. The work of checking statistics prepared by the revenue agency is now-a-days done by the District Statistical Officer.



### Development Organization

To administer schemes of development, the district has been divided into 15 blocks, each consisting of a consolidated unit of about 45 to 65 villages. The block was previously under the charge of a Block Development Officer. After the merger of the Panchayat Department with the Development Department, the Block Development Officer has been re-designated as the Block Development and Panchayat Officer and has been invested with powers of Panchayat Officer under the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952. With the introduction of the Panchayat Raj in 1961, the development of the block is looked after by an elected body known as the Panchayat Samiti. The Block Development and Panchayat Officer functions under the administrative control of the Panchayat Samiti and is its *ex officio* Executive Officer.

Each block has been provided with Extension Officers by the Industries, Agriculture, Co-operative and Panchayat Departments who function under the control of the Block Development and Panchayat Officer. It helps in the co-ordination of development activities in the block.

The co-ordination of development works of various Panchayat Samitis is done by the Zila Parishad at the district level.

*Panchayats* have been constituted at the village level. These mainly look after the development works. Their other functions include criminal, civil and revenue (judicial) work.

### General Arrangement for disposal of Business

In addition to sub-division, tahsil and block staff, the Deputy Commissioner is assisted by the General Assistant and the District Development and Panchayat Officer. The Assistant Commissioners/Extra Assistant Commissioners are temporarily appointed from time to time with varying degrees of powers—magisterial (executive) and revenue. These officers relieve him of the detailed and routine activities of his office and thus enable him to concentrate upon the general managerial duties of co-ordination, direction, superintendence and control in all spheres of the administrative functions.

**General Assistant.**—He is the principal administrative officer under the Deputy Commissioner and assists him in all executive and administrative functions. Not required to tour in the district, he stays at the headquarters to supervise the working of the office. He is competent to correspond with Government and other departments

on routine matters. All the branches in the Deputy Commissioner's office, except the Development Branch function through him. He is also required to function as the District Electoral Officer.

In addition to the above, the General Assistant performs a lot of miscellaneous work as detailed below:

- (1) Complaints and enquiries received from public and Government.
- (2) Urban and rural rehabilitation work.
- (3) Work of occasional nature, e.g. arrangements in connection with the celebration of Independence Day, Republic Day, Vana Mahotsava, visits of V.I.P.s, District Relief Fund, etc.
- (4) Miscellaneous work, e.g. work of semi-official and non-official bodies, such as District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Boy Scouts, District Sports Association, Home Guards, etc.
- (5) Low and Middle Income Group Housing Schemes.
- (6) Locust, famine, flood and drought work.

**District Development and Panchayat Officer.**—He is the Deputy Commissioner's principal officer who helps him to carry on the community development and welfare programmes. He deals with the following subjects :—

- (1) Work relating to development, five-year plans and local development works.
- (2) Zila Parishad, Panchayat Samitis and *panchayats*.

#### District Committees

A number of committees at the district level help in the disposal of work in specific fields and in devising concrete measures to improve the position. These are enumerated below:

Name	Chairman	Secretary
District Public Relations and Grievances Committee	Deputy Commissioner	General Assistant
District Agricultural Production Committee	Deputy Commissioner	District Development and Panchayat Officer



Name	Chairman	Secretary
Magistrates' and Police Officers' Meeting	Deputy Commissioner	General Assistant
Revenue and Consolidation Officers' Meeting	Deputy Commissioner	General Assistant
Small Savings Committee	Deputy Commissioner	General Assistant
District Employment Committee	Deputy Commissioner	District Employment Officer
District Library Committee	Deputy Commissioner	District Public Relations Officer

On the same pattern the sub-divisions have their sub-divisional advisory committees. Most of the above committees meet once a month. The district level co-ordination committee, however, holds its meetings twice a month. Since one of the items on the agenda of this committee relates to public complaints, its meetings are attended by a Minister.

There has been a change of significant interest in the administration of the district in recent years. More than ever before, the Deputy Commissioner has become the co-ordinating link between the various departments. The various committee meetings held once a month keep him in close touch with developments in important fields of government activity. The monthly meeting of the district level co-ordination committee with a Minister of the State attending to listen to public complaints and grievances is a significant departure in the interest of public relations. This institution, if properly used, can be potentially very helpful to the Government eliciting the opinion of the public in all matters.

#### Other State and Central Government Officers

Other State and Central Government officers in the district are listed below. They are administratively under the control of their respective heads of department but the Deputy Commissioner has been given powers to co-ordinate their activities and exercise a general control over them. The list given below emphasises the multifarious fields requiring the

attention of the Deputy Commissioner :  
State Government Officers

1. Superintending Engineer, P.W.D., Public Health Circle, Rohtak
2. Executive Engineer, Haryana Division, Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal, Rohtak
3. Executive Engineer, Rohtak Division, Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal, Rohtak
4. Executive Engineer, Rohtak Provincial Division, Rohtak
5. Executive Engineer, Rohtak Division (Haryana State Electricity Board), Rohtak
6. Executive Engineer, Rohtak Drainage Division, Rohtak
7. Chief Medical Officer, Rohtak
8. Zonal Medical Officer, B.C.G. Vaccination, Rohtak
9. Malaria Officer, Rohtak
10. Assistant Director (Consolidation), Rohtak
11. Settlement Officer (Consolidation), Rohtak
12. Deputy Regional Director, Local Bodies, Rohtak
13. District Industries Officer, Rohtak
14. District Agricultural Officer, Rohtak
15. District Education Officer, Rohtak
16. District Food and Supplies Controller, Rohtak
17. District Animal Husbandry Officer, Rohtak
18. District Statistical Officer, Rohtak
19. Regional Welfare Officer for Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Rohtak
20. District Welfare Officer for Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Rohtak
21. District Public Relations Officer, Rohtak
22. District Employment Officer, Rohtak
23. District Sports Officer, Rohtak
24. Treasury Officer, Rohtak



25. District Excise and Taxation Officer, Rohtak
26. Superintendent, District Jail, Rohtak
27. Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Rohtak
28. Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Rohtak
29. Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Sonapat
30. Assistant Director, Fisheries, Rohtak Circle, Rohtak
31. District Commander, Haryana Home Guards, Rohtak
32. General Manager, Haryana Roadways, Rohtak

The office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Gurgaon, is represented by the Forest Ranger, Rohtak and the Forest Ranger, Sonapat. There are 4 Inspectorates dealing with weights and measures, labour, shops and wild life.

#### **Central Government Officers (excluding Military Officers)**

1. Appellate Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax, Rohtak
2. Income-tax Officer, Rohtak
3. Assistant Settlement Commissioner, Rohtak
4. Superintendent, Central Excise, Rohtak
5. Superintendent, Post-Offices, Rohtak
6. Engineering Supervisor, Telegraphs, Rohtak

#### **Police**

The Police administration in the district is under the Superintendent of Police, who, next to the Deputy Commissioner, is responsible for the maintenance of law and order. The Superintendent of Police functions under the administrative control of Deputy Inspector General of Police, Ambala Range, Ambala Cantt. There are 14 police stations in the district.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Judiciary**

On the civil side, the administration of justice in the district is headed by the District and Sessions Judge, Rohtak, who is assisted by the Senior Sub-Judge, Rohtak and three Sub-Judges one each at Rohtak, Sonapat and Jhajjar.

Before the separation of the judiciary from the executive in 1964, the organisation of criminal justice was controlled by the

<sup>1</sup> For details see Chapter on 'Law and Order and Justice'.

District Magistrate, Rohtak, who was assisted by the Additional District Magistrate, Magistrate 1st Class, Rohtak, Sub-Divisional Officers and Resident Magistrates, one each at Sonapat and Gohana. After the separation in 1964, criminal justice has also been placed under the control of District and Sessions Judge, Rohtak. The District Magistrate is now responsible for law and order and Executive Magistrates under him try only security cases.<sup>1</sup>

### District Attorney

Previously the criminal business and civil business on behalf of the Government in the district was done by the Public Prosecutor and Government Advocates respectively. In 1960, a regular service known as the Punjab District Attorneys Service was constituted and a District Attorney was appointed in Rohtak. He conducts civil business in all the District Courts and criminal business only in the Courts of District and Sessions Judge and Additional District and Sessions Judge. He functions under the general control of the Legal Remembrancer. He is not allowed any private practice.

### Official Receiver

There is an Official Receiver, appointed by the Government on the recommendation of the District and Sessions Judge. He is in charge of the insolvency estates. In case a person applies for insolvency, his property is put under his charge and he disposes it of according to the orders of the Insolvency Court, keeping 7½ per cent of the sale proceeds as his remuneration. He also acts as Court Auctioneer and gets 4 per cent commission on the auction proceeds.

### Oath Commissioners

There are 12 Oath Commissioners, 7 at Rohtak including the Official Receiver who is an *ex officio* Oath Commissioner, 2 each at Jhajjar and Sonapat and one at Gohana. They charge Re. 1 as attestation fee for each affidavit attested.

### Registration

The Deputy Commissioner is the Registrar responsible for registration work in the district. The Tahsildar and the Naib Tahsildar perform the functions of Sub-Registrar.

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1. For details see Chapter on 'Law and Order and Justice'.



## CHAPTER XI

### REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

#### Fiscal History

The system of revenue administration in Rohtak was the same as applied to the rest of northern India during the last 300 years. In the reign of Akbar, Raja Todar Mal divided northern India into administrative circles. The main features of assessment in these circles were: measurement of all arable and productive land in terms of standard *bigha*; an estimate of gross produce per bigha, based on an elaborate classification of soils according to their productiveness and other advantages; and the conversion of State share of the gross produce to money rates calculated on the basis of 10 years' prices. The system continued with minor changes under the Mughals. During the 18th century, 'both parties regarded the amount to be paid as variable, to be increased or reduced as circumstances might permit, while the farmer looked forward to a time when he might be strong enough to refuse payment altogether'.<sup>1</sup> As the government grew weaker, and as the people became bolder, they naturally began to refuse to pay any revenue. George Thomas had to collect his revenue by the persuasion of guns and bayonets, while the Nawab of Dujana gave up the attempt in disgust and despair after six years. It was after such experiences that north of the district (Rohtak, Gohana and Sampla tahsils) came under the British.

#### Early settlements

A series of summary settlements were undertaken at different dates in different parts of the district. The first regular settlement of the northern part of the district was undertaken between 1838 and 1840 while that of the resumed *Nawabis* of Jhajjar and Bahadurgarh was effected in 1863.

1. *The Cambridge History of India, Volume IV, The Mughal Period, 1963, pp. 473-74.*

2. The calendar of land revenue settlements in the district is given below:

Territory	First regular settlement		Revised settlement		Third regular settlement	
	From	To	From	To	From	To
Main part of the district	1838-40	1870	kharif, 1879	1909	1909	1939
Jhajjar and Bahadurgarh territory	1863	1870				
Sonepat tahsil	1842	1870	rabi, 1880	kharif, 1909	rabi, 1910	1919

The revised settlement of the district excepting the Sonapat tahsil<sup>1</sup> was made by Purser and Fanshawe in 1879, and that of the Sonapat tahsil by R. Maconachie in 1880. This settlement remained in force for thirty years. A detailed account of these settlements can be seen in the *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1883-84, and the *Delhi District Gazetteer*, 1883-84.

### Third Regular Settlement, 1909-1910

The third regular settlement of the district was carried out between 1905 and 1910 and it came into force in 1909-10 (from *kharif* 1909 in the Gohana, Rohtak and Jhajjar tahsils and from *rabi* 1910 in Sonapat) and it was sanctioned for 30 years.

The Settlement of 1909-10 was preceded by a forecast report which satisfied the Government that a re-assessment was advisable mainly on account of the increase in prices and extension in irrigation combined with an extension in cultivation which had taken place since the imposition of the demand in 1879-80.

The remeasurement of 45 per cent of the villages of the Jhajjar, Rohtak and Gohana tahsils, was made on the square system, generally on the scale of 40 *gathas* to an inch or 16 inches to the mile, but occasionally on a larger scale when the fields were very small. The maps of the remaining 55 per cent of the estates were amended and brought up to date. In the Sonapat tahsil, it was found unnecessary in 88 per cent of the villages to resort to remeasurement because the old settlement records were brought up to date by the now well-known process of correction, colloquially termed *tarmim*. In a few villages, even an abbreviated system known as *tarmim sarsari* was pursued. In the riverain tract where boundaries had been generally obliterated by floods, the village maps were re-drawn.

The owners' rate was consolidated with occupiers' rates, since the land-owners themselves never observed the distinction and charged the cultivators the whole cost of the water. The rates of the land revenue were somewhat raised on the consideration of the average irrigation done while a provision was made for imposing a slight increase of the demand in case of further extension of canal irrigation.

While in this manner assessment was fixed in other areas, powers were reserved in the flooded tracts of the Jhajjar tahsil (Southern

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1. The Sonapat tahsil was merged in the Rohtak district in 1912.



*Dahri*) to introduce fluctuating assessment hereafter in lieu of the fixed assessment, if the change was desired by the majority of the land-owners. Further, if the fields in Southern *Dahri* circle of the *Jhajjar* tahsil got so deeply flooded that the crops could not be reaped, then the year's fixed demand was remitted. A special set of rules for 25 villages of the *Sonepat* tahsil situated within reach of the *Yamuna*, provided that the land revenue had to be remitted or imposed on the land washed away or thrown out by river action. For these villages, the *burd haramad* (alluvion and diluvian) files were prepared in December after the river had receded to its winter level.

Areas served by wells were also leniently treated. New wells had been admitted to protective leases, exempting them from wet assessment for a period varying from 20 to 40 years. The provision was made to relieve the existing wells of wet assessment when they fell out of use.

Taken altogether, though the assessment was to be progressively increased, it was decided, as the following table indicates, that at no time should the increase be greater than 33 per cent over the old assessment. The total assessment announced by the settlement was as follows :—

Tahsil	Initial	Final	Deferred	6th year	11th Year
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
Rohtak	3,39,082	3,49,525	10,393*	10,393	—
Gohana	3,56,945	3,75,979	18,034	16,234	1,800
Jhajjar	4,53,886	4,60,516	6,630	6,630	—
Sonepat	4,29,455	4,77,220	47,765	36,325	11,430
Total	15,79,378	16,63,240	82,812*	69,582	13,230

A fixed system of assessment pre-supposes the suspension or remission of the demand when the crops are affected by an unforeseen calamity. Accordingly, a scheme to govern the treatment of suspensions, recoveries and remissions of land revenue in the district was sanctioned. The district has not experienced any serious famine since the settlement but was hit by fodder and grain

\*The difference between initial and final demand in the Rohtak tahsil comes to Rs. 10,443 whereas *Final Report of the Third Regular Settlement, (1905-1910) of the Rohtak District* gives the amounts deferred in the Rohtak tahsil as Rs. 10,393.

scarcity in 1913-14, 1918-19, 1928-29 and 1938 and by floods in 1924, 1933, 1960, 1961, 1963 and 1964 when large remissions and suspensions were made.

A calamity occasioned by a great fall in harvest prices struck the district in 1930, but the prices began to rise in 1941 and since then the land-owners have been comparatively better off.

When the settlement of 1909-10 was effected the district was dry and depended on rainfall in most parts. But with the new canal irrigation, the production capacity of the land was improved. In 1954, a surcharge on land revenue was levied because the term of the settlement expired in 1939. Since then the prices of various crops having increased to a very large extent, there has been a corresponding increase in the net assets of land.

Again in 1958, a special charge on the land revenue was imposed to meet the heavy financial obligations created by the various development schemes included in the Five-Year Plans.

The incidence of land revenue imposed by the settlement of 1909-10 was Rs. 1-3 $\frac{3}{4}$  annas on every cultivated acre and Rs 1-1 $\frac{7}{8}$  annas on every culturable acre. The incidence of land revenue during 1957 to 1966 is given below:

Year	Incidence of land revenue on fully assessed area per acre for cultivated area	Incidence of land revenue on fully assessed area per acre for total area
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1957	1-46	1-16
1958	1-45	1-16
1959	1-45	1-16
1960	1-48	1-16
1961	1-49	1-16
1962	1-50	1-17
1963	1-51	1-17
1964	1-49	1-16
1965	1-53	1-16



**Special Assessment on land put to non-agricultural use**

When land is used for purposes of agriculture, the return to the State is fixed under the land revenue settlements, having regard to factors such as soil, yields, prices, rainfall, rental statistics and economic conditions of the area. But when land is put to non-agricultural uses like constructing a residential building or erecting an industrial plant, the owner of the land gets an unearned increment particularly if the land is situated within or in the vicinity of growing towns and cities. This increment in land values can generally be attributed mostly to the expenditure incurred out of public revenues in the shape of provision of roads, construction of railways and general development of the area. The land-owners are not fully entitled to this increment in values and it is only fair that this increment should be shared with the Government. It was with this object that the Punjab Land Revenue Act of 1887 was amended by the Punjab Act XIII of 1952 which provided for special assessment of land "put to use different from that for which an assessment is in force or when the land has been put to use for non-agricultural purposes such as brickkilns, factories, houses, landing grounds and other similar purposes". The work of special assessment of non-agricultural lands was started in July 1955.

*Ad hoc* special assessment under Punjab Land Revenue (Special Assessment) Act, 1955.—Since a very elaborate procedure was provided for carrying out the special assessment operations which were to take a number of years, it was decided to levy special assessment on an *ad hoc* basis as a multiple of the existing land revenue with effect from *kharif* 1955.

Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment) Act, 1958.—While the work of special assessment was in progress a defect was observed in the Punjab Act XIII of 1952 in as much as it did not permit the levy of special assessment on land put to non-agricultural use if it was not already assessed to land revenue. In other words, the town sites escaped assessment. Accordingly, an amendment was made to provide assessment of lands, whether or not already assessed to land revenue, except village *abadi deh* (inhabited site of village) and to make certain exemptions.

It was provided that special assessment on a category and class of sites of land put to non-agricultural use in an assessment circle or part thereof shall not exceed 1/4th of the average net letting

value; or exceed 2.4 per cent. of the average market value, and in the case of sites lying vacant and out of use, exceed 1 per cent. of the average market value.

The net letting value was derived after making the following deductions from the existing annual rent of such sites:—

- (i) fair remuneration at 6 per cent for the capital invested on building or machinery or both after deducting the depreciation on their value;
- (ii) house tax;
- (iii) property tax; and
- (iv) maintenance charges not exceeding one month's gross rent.

On publication of the preliminary assessment reports a number of representations were made to Government against harshness of the levy. Government, therefore, took the following decisions on April 4, 1961:—

- (i) The rate of levy at present should not be up to the maximum limit of 25 per cent prescribed in the Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment) Act, 1958; it should not exceed 6½ per cent of the estimated average net letting value. Where, however, this levy has to be made according to the market value, as provided in the Act, it should be modified also in the same proportion, as above.

- (ii) Exemption should be given to the following cases:—

- (a) All hilly areas notified as such by Government.
- (b) Sites on which new factories are built, for a period of 10 years (i.e. each factory will be exempted for 10 years from the start of working of the factory).

- (iii) Substantial relief should be given in the following cases:—

- (a) Compound and courtyard areas surrounding the building and used for purposes such as flower-beds, kitchen gardens, grassy lawns, fruit plants, etc.

- (b) The owner-occupied residential houses and bungalows.



To give effect to the decision No. (iii) above, the following proposals were formulated and approved:—

- (i) The rate of levy on owner-occupied houses and bungalows shall be  $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the rate otherwise leviable, i.e. if the building was rented.
- (ii) The rate of levy on compound and courtyard areas shall be  $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the rate charged on the building itself.

Since the general rate of levy had already been reduced from 25 per cent to  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of the net letting value, the rate of owner-occupied houses and bungalows came to  $1/16$ th of the original rate, and in the case of compound and courtyard areas of owner-occupied houses/bungalows, it came to  $1/64$ th of the original rate.

In addition to exempting hill areas which term included sub-montane areas, and factories (for a limited period of 10 years), the following exemptions were provided:—

- (i) Use of land for purposes of a garden;
- (ii) Use of land for purposes of an orchard;
- (iii) Use of houses occupied for agricultural purposes or for purposes subservient to agriculture;
- (iv) Use of land for small-scale cottage industries;
- (v) Use of land for public, charitable or religious purposes; and
- (vi) residential houses/bungalows in occupation of owners with an annual rental value not exceeding Rs. 300.

The work of special assessment in areas outside *lal lakir* (line to demarcate the inhabited site of village, not assessed to land revenue) has since been completed. The following statement gives the areas,

sites and revenue estates outside the *lal lakir* to be brought under special assessment and income therefrom :—

Tahsil	Area	Sites	Number of villages (Revenue estates) effected	Special Assessment	
				Total	Immediately recoverable
				(Rs.)	(Rs.)
Rohtak	780 acres, 9 <i>birwas</i> , 6 <i>birwansis</i> , and 35 sq. ft.	5,809	43	18,904	17,126
Gohana	371 acres, 10 <i>birwas</i> , 14 <i>birwansis</i> , and 63 sq. ft.	734	38	3,269	3,104
Sonepat	576 acres, 2 <i>bighas</i> , 15 <i>birwas</i> , 11 <i>birwansis</i> , and 8 sq. ft.	3,977	48	15,181	14,640
Jhajjar	227 acres, 5 <i>birwas</i> , 2 <i>birwansis</i> , and 36 sq. ft.	1,439	30	5,317	5,009

The enforcement of the special assessment was suspended with effect from *Kharif* 1964.

#### COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE

As the district came under the British in the beginning of the 19th century, the assessment and collection of revenue was not in a good state and it was left much to be desired. During the early settlements which were very rough and ready proceedings, Sadar Malguzars were engaged for a *patti* or an estate and they were made responsible for the payment of cash assessment. Sadar Malguzars, in turn, were allowed to make what arrangements they could for collection from their co-parceners. The most drastic process known to the Revenue Code for this area of the North-Western Provinces was constantly and indiscriminately applied when villages fell into arrears, and the abuses of the sale law became a scandal for the administration. If the Sadar Malguzar was in default, the whole *patti* or estate for which he was engaged was put up to auction, and all private rights of ownership annulled in favour of the purchaser who was very frequently the Tahsildar or one of his underlings. Indeed, it is said that by some strange misapprehension the rule applicable to cases of sale for arrears of revenue appears to have been extended not only to the sales of estate under decrees of Court for private debts, but even to the private transfers of the Sadar



Malguzars. The powerful machinery of Government was thus rapidly breaking up communities which had survived the crushing exactions of the petty tyrannies which it had replaced. The extent of the evil may be gauged by the extraordinary nature of the remedy applied with very partial success in 1821. In that year the Holt Mackenzie Commission was appointed with power to annul, should equity require it, any public or private transfer of land which had taken place before September 13, 1810. The Regulations of 1822, based on the proposals of the Commission, swept away the worst feature of the sale law.

Under the first regular settlement, Lambardars were required to collect land revenue from concerned communities of land-owners. There were 1,958 Lambardars or one to every 50 land-owners when the revised settlement was taken up by Fanshawe. All the Lambardars, wherever possible, were appointed headmen to compose the claims of rural claimants in the regular settlement. Thuledars who were representatives chosen by the people in their own councils as distinct from the Lambardars who were only appointed by the Government, got themselves recorded as Lambardars and so obtained hereditary status and some remunerations. The Police Commission Report of 1902-03 proposed a reduction in the number of Lambardars. The acceptance of this proposal resulted in subsequent vacancies not being filled.

The *zaildari* system was introduced in the settlement of 1879 to assist Lambardars, in the realisation of revenue arrears. The Ala Lambardars who were also appointed in 1879 proved to be a failure and in 1909, it was decided to do away with them gradually and since the beginning of the third settlement vacancies were not filled.<sup>1</sup> In their place, it was decided to create *sufedposhi inams*. The Zaildars and Sufedposhes supervised the collection of land revenue. They were paid from a portion, usually one per cent of the land revenue, which was set aside for the purpose. The agencies of *zaildari* and *sufedposhi* were abolished in 1948, revived in 1950 but again abolished in 1952. Now only Lambardars are responsible for revenue collection on the payment of *pachotra*. Their total number in the district in 1965 was 3,018.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF LAND REVENUE AND RECORD OF RIGHTS

As chief district revenue officer, a Deputy Commissioner's title is Collector, a term which indicates his responsibility for the realisation of

<sup>1</sup> Final Report of the Third Regular Settlement (1905-10) of Rohtak District, p. 48.

all Government revenues. He is assisted in this regard by Sub-Divisional Officers, Tahsildars and Naib Tahsildars.

The district is sub-divided into tahsils, *kanungo* circles and *patwar* circles as follows :—

<u>Tahsil</u>	<u>Kanungo circle</u>	<u>Number of patwar circles</u>	<u>Assistant Patwaris</u>
Rohtak	(1) Rohtak	24	1
	(2) Kiloj	23	
	(3) Hassangarh	24	1
Gohana	(4) Gohana	17	1
	(5) Mundlana	18	
	(6) Baroda	18	
	(7) Maham	18	1
Jhajjar (including Nahar Sub-Tahsil)	(8) Beri	21	
	(9) Bahadurgarh	20	
	(10) Jhajjar	21	1
	(11) Subana	20	
	(12) Machhrauli	20	
	(13) Nahar	7	
Sonapat	(14) Murthal	18	
	(15) Kheora	18	
	(16) Kailana	19	
	(17) Sonapat	19	1
	(18) Rohat	19	
Total	18 <i>kanungo</i> circles	344 <i>patwar</i> circles	6 Assistant Patwaris

The Tahsildar, in charge of a tahsil, is a very important functionary. The tahsil is of primary importance in the district. It is the headquarters of the tahsil treasury and office; and here local payments are made by Lambardars and local revenue petitions are presented. Some of the petitions are disposed of while important ones are forwarded to the Collector for orders. The Tahsildar exercises local control in tahsil. He is required to pay special attention to check the record of changes in proprietary and occupancy holdings, and harvest statistics. He is constantly in camp and his camp tours afford him opportunities for dealing with partition cases on the spot, and with matters connected with appointments of Lambardars, and cases of lapse of revenue assignments. A Tahsildar is assisted by



Naib-Tahsildars and as many of them are appointed as the work-load in the tahsil requires. In 1965, there were 9 Naib Tahsildars in the district; 3 in the Rohtak tahsil, 2 in the Sonapat tahsil, 1 in the Gohana tahsil, 2 in the Jhajjar tahsil and 1 in the Nahar sub-tahsil.

The Patwari is an inheritance from the village system of old days.<sup>1</sup> He is appointed for a circle consisting of one or more villages. Besides the proper maintenance of the records entrusted to his charge, the Patwari is required to report to the Tahsildar any calamity affecting the land, crops, cattle or the agricultural classes, and to bring to notice alluvial and diluvial action of rivers, encroachments on Government lands, the death of revenue assignees and pensioners, progress of works made under the agricultural loans and similar laws, and the emigration or immigration of cultivators. He undertakes surveys and field inspections, aids in other Government activities like distribution of relief, etc., prepares the *bachh* (distribution of revenue over holdings) papers showing the demand due from each land-owner to the village *jama* (land revenue demand). When revenue collections are in progress, he must furnish any information that may be required to facilitate the collections. He himself is not permitted to take any part in the collection of the revenue except when any Lambardar refuses to accept the *dhal bachh* (total demand from each land-owner) and no alternative arrangement can be made immediately.

The Patwari is under the immediate supervision of a circle supervisor known as Kanungo, who has been functioning since medieval times. The Kanungo is responsible for the conduct and work of the Patwaris in his charge. He is held responsible for the mutation work of all *patwar* circles. He supervises the Patwaris when they are inspecting the crops and preparing the *dhal bachh*, mutations, and *burd baramad* (alluvion and diluvian) files of their villages. He also visits every *patwar* circle once a month and supervises the timely and accurate completion of the *jamabandis* (revenue record) and the connected statements.

In addition to the field Kanungos, there are 4 office Kanungos who are in charge of records in the tahsil office. They submit to the Tahsildar, in such forms and on such dates as may be prescribed,

1. He was under section 3 of the Land Revenue Act a 'village Officer' and not a Government employee. Patwaris were formerly paid from the cess on the land revenue but in 1906 the State took over the charge and abolished the *patwar* cess and with it the *patwar* fund.

periodical returns showing agricultural data and the progress of work of the Kanungos and Patwaris. They are also responsible for the custody of all *patwar* and assessment records filed in the tahsil; the custody of blank forms and their issue to the Patwaris and Kanungos; the accounts of the Patwari and Kanungo establishment of the tahsil; the accounts of mutation fees; the supply of any information required by the Deputy Commissioner or Tahsildar regarding entries in records and bringing to the immediate notice of the Tahsildar reports of calamities submitted by the Patwaris so that these may be forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner.

At district headquarters, there is a District or Sadar Kanungo. The District Kanungo is the inspecting officer of the land record work of the whole district, both in the field and in tahsil offices. He maintains the statistical registers relating to the whole district and is responsible for the custody of all land records filed in the district office. The responsibility of the Tahsildar and Naib Tahsildar, for the inspection and correctness of the work of the Kanungos and Patwaris is, however, not affected by the duties of the District Kanungos. The work of Kanungos is supervised by the Tahsildar and Naib Tahsildar who are expected to verify the crop entries field to field in estates subject to the fluctuating system of assessments, and at least 25 per cent of the entries made in the record of titles of each estate.

### LAND REVENUE AND SPECIAL CESSES

#### Land Revenue

The land revenue, fixed in the settlement of 1909-10, is realised to this day as there has been no revision thereafter. The land revenue is payable in two instalments, for *kharif* crop on December 15 and for *rabi* on June 15. The details of income from land revenue and remission during 1957 to 1965 are given below :

Year ending <i>rabi</i>	Previous year's balance	Demand	Total for re- covery	Actual recovery	Remission	Balance
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1957	17,446	16,81,616	16,99,062	16,10,047	85,466	3,549
1958	3,549	16,79,061	16,82,610	16,75,074	931	6,585
1959	6,585	16,7837	16,84,622	15,66,170	1,11,064	7,388
1960	7,388	16,81,389	16,88,777	16,36,362	23,870	28,545



Year ending rabi	Previous year's balance	Demand	Total for re- covery	Actual recovery	Remission	Balance
1961	28,545	16,81,104	17,09,649	12,97,771	3,91,790	20,088
1962	20,088	16,90,195	17,10,283	13,36,017	3,59,301	14,965
1963	14,965	16,95,136	17,10,101	16,81,781	13,625	14,695
1964	14,695	16,98,365	17,13,060	11,96,395	4,88,286	28,379
1965	28,379	17,05,495	17,33,874	10,69,049	5,58,651	1,06,174
1966	1,06,174	17,06,095	18,12,269	15,00,029	78,623	2,33,617

### Special Cesses

**Village officers cess.**—The village officers cess used to include *patwar* cess also. In the earlier settlements, a normal rate for the *patwar* cess was considered to be 6 pies per rupee of land revenue which is equivalent to a surcharge of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent, an additional quarter or half per cent being taken on account of stationery. But later the cess was found to be too light to meet the expenditure which the new standards of revenue work demanded and the rate was increased to about  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The *patwar* cess was entirely remitted in 1906 when the State took over charge of Patwaris. *Pachotra* as the name implies, amounting to 5 per cent of the revenue, is charged for the Lambardars.

**Local rate.**—It has grown from small beginnings. It was usual in early settlements to levy a road cess at one per cent on the land revenue and subsequently an education cess amounting to surcharge of one per cent and a postal or dak cess amounting to one-half per cent were added. But in 1871, a local rate amounting to  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent on land revenue was imposed. This local rate was raised in 1878 from  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent to  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent for providing relief to the famine stricken people in the district.<sup>1</sup> With the passing of the Punjab District Boards Act, 1883, the road, postal and education cesses were merged in the local rate and its legal limit was raised to  $12\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of the land revenue and owners' rate. In 1922, the rate was fixed at a maximum of 12 pies and minimum of 10 pies per rupee of the annual

1. The famine cess was abolished in 1906.

value<sup>1</sup> under section 4 of the Punjab Act XI of 1922. But the Rohtak District Board fixed the rate at the maximum. In 1954-55, the Punjab Government raised the local rate to 50 per cent of the land revenue on the recommendations of the District Board, Rohtak. The following table will show the amount of collection during 1963 to 1967:—

<u>Year ending <i>rabi</i></u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1963	9,96,257
1964	11,19,769
1965	11,52,782
1966	9,98,548
1967	10,18,951

**Surcharge on land revenue.**—The assessment of land revenue in the settlement of 1909-10, was made chiefly on the basis of prices then prevailing. The term of the settlement expired in 1939. Since then the rise in the prices of various crops has increased the net assets of land and an increase in the assessment of land revenue has fallen due. As it was not possible for Government to conduct regular settlements owing to administrative difficulties and as Government needed more revenue immediately to meet the ever-increasing expenditure on development, it was decided that a surcharge should be imposed on the existing land revenue.

Accordingly, the Punjab Land Revenue (Surcharge) Act, 1954, was enacted for the levy of surcharge, with effect from the *rabi* harvest of the agricultural year 1953-54. Under the Act, every land-owner who pays land revenue, in excess of ten rupees is liable to pay a surcharge thereon to the extent of one-quarter of land revenue if the amount payable by him as land revenue does not exceed thirty rupees, and two-fifths of the land revenue where the amount payable by him exceeds thirty rupees. It was also provided in the Act that this shall continue to be charged and levied so long as the assessment of land revenue prevailing at the commencement of this Act continues to be

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1. Annual value is defined as double the land revenue assessed on any land, whether such assessment is leviable or not.



in force. The income from the surcharge during 1955 to 1966 is given below:—

<u>Year ending <i>rabi</i></u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1955	3,63,721
1956	3,19,253
1957	3,40,141
1958	3,48,598
1959	3,32,493
1960	3,19,530
1961	2,48,015
1962	2,48,808
1963	3,32,569
1964	2,24,056
1965	1,91,905
1966	2,78,335

**Special charge on land revenue.**—As the surcharge levied from 1955 proved to be inadequate to meet the heavy financial obligations created by the various development schemes, it became necessary to augment the State revenues in every possible manner; hence a special charge was levied under the Punjab Land Revenue (Special Charge) Act, 1958, with effect from *rabi* harvest of agricultural year 1957-58. The rate of special charge is based on the income-tax pattern, with different slabs for different categories of land-owners. The slab rates are such that the incidence of taxation mainly falls on those who can afford to pay it. The revenue (land revenue plus surcharge) payers up to Rs. 50 have been exempted and those paying more than Rs. 1,000 have been subjected to 300 per cent increase in the land revenue.

The special charge is to be a permanent feature of revenue policy of the State Government. The income under it from the date of its inception is as follows:—

<u>Year ending <i>rabi</i></u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1959	1,06,587
1960	69,391
1961	56,153
1962	55,481
1963	77,391
1964	51,033
1965	40,994
1966	64,603

**Commercial crops cess.**—A cess on commercial crops namely cotton, sugarcane and chillies at the rate of Rs. 4 per acre in the case of land which is irrigated by canal water and Rs. 2 per acre in case of other land, has been levied with effect from *kharif* 1963 under the Punjab Commercial Crops Cess Act, 1963. Areas under commercial crops, sown solely for home use up to one *kanal* in the case of chillies and 2 *kanals* in the case of sugarcane or cotton is exempted from this levy. The income from this cess during 1964—1966 was as follows:—

<u>Year ending <i>rabi</i></u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1964	2,35,779
1965	2,42,272
1966	6,61,527

**Water rates.**—Water rates are levied on the area irrigated during each crop under the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873. The rates were revised a number of times and the final revision took place with effect from *rabi* 1949. The rates were



slightly reduced on wheat and gram crops in 1953-54. The income from this source during 1963 to 1966 was as follows:—

<u>Year ending <i>rabi</i></u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1963	50,54,408
1964	29,76,216
1965	34,82,544
1966	40,46,538

**Betterment charges.**—Betterment charges are levied under the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Act, 1952. This is levied on the areas served by irrigation projects covered under the Act. The levy is to cover the cost of unproductive portion of these irrigation projects. The income from this levy during 1963 to 1966 was as follows :—

<u>Year ending <i>rabi</i></u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1963	11,66,847
1964	10,14,420
1965	10,41,879
1966	10,57,177

## LAND REFORMS

### **Agrarian Reforms**

It has been felt for long that agrarian reforms were necessary. With the attainment of Independence it became clear that a sound land policy should take up the question of ameliorating the conditions of the tenants; it should also consider laying down a ceiling to land holding. The landlords became restive fearing that they would be deprived of the lands which had been cultivated for years by their tenants. They started bringing these lands under their direct management. They also began to partition their lands or transfer them in the names of their relatives and friends with a view to reducing the areas of their holdings. All this resulted in harassment to the tenants whose position became shaky.

The history of land system in the State reveals that there were three parties who shared rights in land, viz. the State, the proprietor and the tenant. The long-standing interest of the State lay in its claim to a share of the produce of the land from its cultivators.

In the district besides proprietors there were tenants-at-will and tenants with rights of occupancy. The different kinds of holdings in different years were as follows:—

Year	Total cultivated area (Acres)	Land with tenants-at-will (Acres)	Land with occupancy tenants (Acres)	Land with owners (Acres)
1910	10,44,815	3,49,740	45,239	6,49,836
1947	10,70,377	4,97,884	47,252	5,25,241
1960	12,28,388	5,02,170	—	7,20,509
1965	12,46,223	4,71,660	—	7,74,563

No material changes occurred in the system of land holding between 1910 and 1947. Villages with small holdings were the rule except for a few *zamindari* type of villages. Relationship between the landlords and the tenants was generally satisfactory, though it tended to lean in favour of the landlords. This position became different after Independence when Government decided to introduce suitable land reforms based on its land policy. A great deal of land was cultivated by peasant proprietors of small holdings convenient for self-cultivation or it was held by intermediaries, who got it cultivated through tenants but who had themselves no interest in the land beyond getting their rent. The tenants were mainly occupancy tenants, tenants-at-will or *Adna* *Maliks*. All these combined formed a sizeable proportion of the rural population. Their lot had to be improved in pursuance of the Government policy 'of land for the tiller'. Accordingly the following laws were enacted:—

- (1) The East Punjab Utilization of Lands Act, 1949
- (2) The Punjab Abolition of *Ala* *Malikiyat* and *Talukdari* Rights Act, 1952
- (3) The Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, 1952



(4) The Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953

(5) The Punjab Bhudan Yagna Act, 1955

The salient features of the above-mentioned Acts and their implementation are explained briefly.

**Abolition of intermediaries.**—Under the Punjab Abolition of Ala Malikiyat and Talukdari Rights Act, 1952, the age-old institution of Ala Maliks or Talukdars was abolished, the Ala Maliks or Talukdars being only intermediaries between the State and the ordinary or Adna Maliks who actually possessed and cultivated the land and paid land revenue to Government, paying in addition a negligible percentage over the land revenue as rent to the Ala Maliks or Talukdars. The latter were allowed due compensation for the abolition of these rights. The law promulgated in 1952 has since been implemented throughout the district and all the *ala malikiyat* and *talukdari* rights have been abolished.

**Vesting of proprietary rights in occupancy tenants.**—Occupancy tenants had held land for generations (the tenures being heritable) on payment of fixed rents in cash or kind usually. They were generally not evictable so long as they were in reasonable cultivation of the tenancy and paid their rent regularly. By the Punjab Occupancy Tenants Act, proprietary rights of the land held by these tenants were vested in them and they were made to pay a reasonable compensation to the landlords. The provisions of this law have been practically wholly implemented and all those who were formerly classed as occupancy tenants are now full-fledged proprietors of their holdings.

**Security of land tenures.**—The Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953, as amended in 1955, not only reduced the acreage which could be reserved by landlords but also specifically prohibited ejectment of tenants from all un-reserved areas, except in cases of default in payment of rent or where they did not properly cultivate the land.<sup>1</sup> Rent was limited to one-third of the crop or the value thereof, or to the customary rent if this was lower. However, payment for services provided by the landlord were excluded from the computation of rent. The Act further extended the opportunities

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1. The Act XI of 1955 added the provisions that no tenant might be ejected from reserved land unless he was settled on surplus or other land.

for tenants to become owners. A tenant of 4 years' standing acquired a right of pre-emption at sales or foreclosures; but more important than that, tenants of 6 years' standing were allowed to buy un-reserved area from their landlords at three quarters of the ten-year average of prices of similar land.

Government has been further empowered to utilise the surplus area of both land-owners and tenants for the resettlement of ejected tenants. All areas owned by a local owner above 30 standard acres and by a displaced person above 50 standard acres are considered as surplus area. A small owner having 30 standard acres cannot eject a tenant under the Act from 5 standard acres unless the tenant has been settled by Government on surplus area.

The work of assessment of surplus area under the Act has made a considerable headway. In 1966, there were 1,740 cases of surplus area. All of them were decided and 21,041 standard acres of land were declared surplus.

The resettlement of tenants considered eligible for the grant of surplus land was started all over the district and 12,027 tenants have been resettled on an area of 18,107 standard acres. Proprietary rights have been given to the tenants on an area of approximately 1,495 acres.

The State Government gives financial assistance to those tenants and landless agricultural workers who are being resettled on the surplus areas for reclamation purposes, and also advances loans for building houses and sinking wells.

**Utilization of waste lands.**—There was some cultivable waste land in the district not used for cultivation. In pursuance of Government policy to utilize every inch of available culturable land for growing more food and other essential crops, the East Punjab Utilization of Lands Act, 1949, was enacted under which a notice is served on every land-owner who allows his land to remain uncultivated for six or more consecutive harvests and the land thus taken over is leased out to others for a term ranging from 7 to 20 years, priority being given to the Harijans. Under the provisions of this Act about 552 acres of land was taken over, out of which 507 acres was leased out to tenants by the end of 1965.

**Bhoodan Yagna.**—The Act gives statutory recognition to the Bhoodan Movement, the object of which is to receive donations of lands and distribute them among landless persons who are capable of cultivating them personally.



### Consolidation of Holdings

No systematic and large-scale development is possible when the holdings are small and the fields lie scattered. It is only through the consolidation of holdings that the land lying scattered in tiny strips assumes a compact and standard shape. The regular sizeable fields enable the use of new and extensive agricultural technique. Circular and approach roads increase the mobility between houses and villages and the land for institutions like *panchayat ghar* and schools help initiate the social welfare programmes. A lot of virgin land is also reclaimed by the Government as a corollary to the scheme. In fact, consolidation brings about a revolution in the economic structure of land tilling.

The work of consolidation of land holdings was being carried out in the Punjab by the Co-operative Department since 1930 but in the absence of legislation, it did not make much headway. To make good this legislative deficiency, the State Government enacted the East Punjab Holdings (Consolidation and Prevention of Fragmentation) Act, 1948 and created a separate Consolidation Department in 1949.

The work of consolidation of land holdings was started in the district in 1950. The progress of the work up to March 1967, is indicated in the following table :—

Tahsil	Total number of villages/area		Villages/area given up		Villages/area to be consolidated		Villages/area consolidated upto 31st March, 1967	
	Vil-lages	Area	Vil-lages	Area	Vil-lages	Area	Vil-lages	Area
		(Acres)		(Acres)		(Acres)		(Acres)
Rohtak	133	3,29,891	1	7,777	132	3,22,114	131	3,18,295
Sonepat	241	2,86,225	7	7,023	234	2,79,202	228	2,68,629
Jhajjar	309	5,20,665	7	10,354	302	5,10,311	278	4,40,727
Gohana	123	3,54,031	1	4,845	122	3,40,186	100	2,43,122
Total	806	14,90,812	16	29,999	790	14,60,813	737	12,70,773

## OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE, STATE AND CENTRAL.

## State Sources of Revenue

There are various other sources besides land from which the State derives its revenue. A brief description of each of these is given below:

**Stamp Duty.**—The Indian Stamp Act No. 11 of 1899 came into force on July 1, 1899. The Act was amended by the Punjab Act VIII of 1922. It was further amended by the Indian Stamp (Punjab Amendment) Act of 1960.

The Act authorises the Collector to ensure that the documents are properly stamped according to schedule. The collection of stamp duty during 1958-59 to 1965-66 was as follows:—

Year	Judicial	Non-judicial	Total
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1958-59	3,93,064	8,84,165	12,77,229
1959-60	4,44,162	8,59,202	13,03,364
1960-61	4,60,482	10,41,412	15,01,894
1961-62	4,84,098	20,32,092	25,16,190
1962-63	4,61,288	21,17,807	25,79,095
1963-64	5,67,933	21,62,562	27,30,495
1964-65	5,73,731	24,29,475	30,03,206
1965-66	6,58,816	19,01,247	25,60,063

**Registration Fee.**—The Deputy Commissioner is the Registrar in the district. The Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars are Sub-Registrars and Joint Sub-Registrars respectively.

The appeals against the orders of the Sub-Registrar are heard by the Registrar. The Inspector-General of Registration, Haryana at Chandigarh, exercises a general superintendence over all the registration offices in the State and has power to make rules consistent with the Indian Registration Act, 1908.



The following statement gives the number of registered documents, value of property and the receipts:—

Year	Number of registrations		Aggregate value of property	Amount of ordinary fees	Other receipts	Total receipts
	Immovable property	Movable property				
			(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1962-63	9,767	591	2,69,06,749	1,90,527	9,306	1,99,833
1963-64	8,887	591	2,88,70,215	1,92,653	6,862	1,99,515
1964-65	11,563	673	5,09,73,216	2,88,029	8,560	2,96,589
1965-66	10,119	660	3,31,80,654	2,84,781	7,194	2,91,975

**Professions Tax.**—Every person who carries on trade, either by himself or by an agent or representative, or who follows a profession or calling or who is in employment either wholly or in part, within the State, is liable to pay professions tax under the Punjab Professions, Trades, Callings and Employments Taxation Act, 1956. The maximum limit of the tax payable by any person cannot exceed Rs. 250 in a financial year. The Excise and Taxation Officer functions as assessing authority under the Act.

The table below shows the net earnings since the enforcement of the Act:

Year	Number of assessees	Amount assessed	Net amount recovered
		(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1956-57	482	39,590	4,828
1957-58	497	63,512	64,917
1958-59	711	1,04,442	94,342
1959-60	584	91,717	81,251
1960-61	601	95,237	83,798
1961-62	551	87,202	65,972
1962-63	1,009	1,98,436	1,24,572
1963-64	586	1,33,790	1,11,954
1964-65	997	1,53,811	1,24,944
1965-66	1,134	1,76,704	1,55,618

**Excise and Taxation.**—For the administration of excise and taxation Acts, the district is under the charge of an Excise and Taxation Officer who is assisted by 4 Assistant Excise and Taxation Officers. Further, the Excise and Taxation Officer has under him 1 District Excise Inspector and 5 Excise Inspectors on the excise side and 1 District Taxation Inspector and 11 Taxation Inspectors on the taxation side. There is a Head Clerk in charge of the ministerial establishment. The Rohtak district falls under the excise and taxation division of Ambala where a Deputy Excise and Taxation Commissioner is in charge under the overall charge of the Excise and Taxation Commissioner. Since the district is situated on the border of the State, there were three sales tax check barriers at Rai, Bahadurgarh and Kharkhauda for the collection of data regarding goods imported from other adjoining States by road transport since July 1, 1955.

The State and Central Acts enforced in the State on the excise side are (1) The Punjab Excise Act, 1914, (2) The Punjab Local Option Act, 1923, (3) The East Punjab Molasses (Control) Act, 1948, (4) The East Punjab Opium Smoking Act, 1948 (Repealed in 1960), (5) The Opium Act, 1878, (6) The Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930, (7) The Indian Power Alcohol Act, 1948, (8) The Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Act, 1955, and (9) The Spirituous Preparations (Inter-State Trade And Commerce) Central Act, 1955.

Prohibition was enforced in the district in respect of liquor on October 2, 1948,<sup>1</sup> and in respect of Opium on April 1, 1959, resulting in the loss of an annual revenue of more than Rs. 36 lakhs and about Rs. 1 lakh respectively.

The net excise revenue for the years 1956-57 to 1965-66 is shown in the statement below. The income after 1959 concerns only *bhang* vends licence fee, denatured spirit, rectified spirit, etc.

Year	Total collection	Expenditure	Net income
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1956-57	1,45,804	34,189	1,11,615
1957-58	1,53,076	29,855	1,23,221

1. It was scrapped on April 1, 1967.



Year	Total collection	Expenditure	Net income
1958-59	1,17,978	29,252	88,726
1959-60	52,928	27,633	25,295
1960-61	56,199	27,091	29,108
1961-62	60,674	38,295	22,379
1962-63	45,612	56,612	(—) 11,000
1963-64	31,293	60,160	(—) 28,867
1964-65	53,171	63,028	(—) 9,857
1965-66	23,735	86,099	(—) 62,364

On the taxation side, the following State and Central Acts are administered by the Exeise and Taxation Department:—

**Property Tax.**—This tax was levied under the Punjab Urban Immovable Property Tax Act, 1940. It is charged at the rate of 10 per cent of the annual rental value of the buildings and lands situated in the rating areas (municipal areas) of Rohtak, Sonapat, Bahadurgarh, Gohana and Jhajjar towns. The collection under the Act during 1956-57 to 1965-66 was as follows:—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1956-57	1,89,884
1957-58	1,96,321
1958-59	2,04,174
1959-60	2,32,906
1960-61	3,06,145
1961-62	4,92,389
1962-63	4,82,170
1963-64	5,86,149
1964-65	5,00,311
1965-66	4,07,411

**Sales Tax.**—The Punjab General Sales Tax Act, 1941, was repealed on May 1, 1949, when the Punjab General Sales Tax Act, 1948, came into force. The turnover pertaining to the period prior to May 1, 1949, however, continued to be dealt with under the old Act. The general rate of tax under this Act is 6 paise a rupee. On luxury goods like motor vehicles, refrigerators, clocks and watches, iron and steel safes and almirahs, radios and radio-parts, gramophones, etc., the rate of tax is 10 per cent. Purchase tax stands levied on cotton, oil-seeds and resin at 2 per cent. Goods that are exported, or sold to registered dealers in the State or are the subject of inter-State trade, are not taxed under the Act. Goods like iron and steel, coal, cotton, etc., that are of special importance of inter-State trade, have been designated as 'declared goods' and tax above 2 per cent cannot be levied on these.

**Special treatment and exemptions.**—Special treatment has been given to the following goods as is clear from the rate of tax mentioned against each :—

	Per cent
Food grains and pulses	1.5
Declared goods (iron and steel), coal, cotton, oil-seeds, jute, etc.	2
Gold and silver articles and wares, ornaments and jewellery	1
Bullion and species	0.5
Sales to Government Departments against a prescribed certificate	1
Ready-made garments made out of hand-loom or mill-made cloth	1

**Exemptions.**—Exemptions have been allowed to electric energy, agricultural implements, fertilizers, kerosene oil,<sup>1</sup> fodder of every type, vegetables, fresh fruits, sugar, textiles,<sup>2</sup> all goods sold to Indian Red Cross Society and John Ambulance Association and those co-operative societies in whose favour a certificate of genuineness is issued by the Commission constituted under the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956.

1. The sales tax at the rate of 2 per cent has been levied since April 1, 1968.

2. Sugar and textiles have been exempted because excise duty has been levied on these by the Central Government.



The receipts of the sales tax during 1956-57 to 1965-66, given below indicate that this source of revenue is assuming increasing importance:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1956-57	19,83,979
1957-58	22,12,728
1958-59	22,21,388
1959-60	25,13,055
1960-61	25,31,818
1961-62	29,13,728
1962-63	30,45,600
1963-64	44,37,459
1964-65	61,63,695
1965-66	74,27,785

**Entertainment Duty.**—The Punjab Entertainments Duty Act, 1936, was repealed by the Punjab Entertainments Duty Act, 1955, on November 4, 1955. The rates have been changing and in 1965-66 these were 50 per cent of the payment of admission to a show. Its incidence falls on the persons who witness the entertainment.

The collections during 1956-57 to 1965-66 under this Act were as follows:—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1956-57	1,39,231
1957-58	1,67,630
1958-59	1,83,301
1959-60	2,38,060
1960-61	2,68,956

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1961-62	3,47,974
1962-63	4,61,962
1963-64	4,95,583
1964-65	5,66,915
1965-66	6,25,899

**Motor Spirit Tax .—**This tax was levied under the Punjab Motor Spirit (Taxation of Sales) Act, 1939. The rate of tax which was 2 annas per imperial gallon was enhanced to 4 annas on July 17, 1957. Again the rate was enhanced to 30 paise per imperial gallon on April 20, 1959. This was converted to 7 paise per litre on May 13, 1960.<sup>1</sup> The total collections of the tax under the Act during 1956-57 to 1965-66 are given below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1956-57	1,56,392
1957-58	1,94,140
1958-59	2,17,537
1959-60	2,80,908
1960-61	2,81,716
1961-62	3,42,857
1962-63	3,55,546
1963-64	3,28,626
1964-65	4,07,691
1965-66	4,67,650

**Show Tax.**—The Punjab Entertainments Tax (Cinematograph) Shows Act, 1954, came into force on the 4th May, 1954. The show tax is levied on the exhibitors for every show on the number of occupied seats of a cinema house. The rate of the tax during 1966-67 which

1. The rate of tax on petrol was enhanced to 9 paise per litre on October 26, 1966. It was, however, decreased to 5 paise per litre on petrol and 4 paise per litre on other motor spirit items on June 22, 1967.



came into force on November 4, 1965 was as follows:—

Town where the cinema house is located	Rate of tax per show for every 100 occupied seats of a cinema house
	(Rs.)
Rohtak	2.20
Sonepat	1.75
Other places and touring talkies	0.87

It was also provided that such tax shall not exceed Rs. 10 per show in any case and shall be charged proportionately for a fraction of 100 seats.\* The net collections of the tax since its enforcement are given below :

Year	Amount
	(Rs.)
1954-55	6,664
1955-56	12,141
1956-57	14,982
1957-58	15,055
1958-59	13,830
1959-60	15,943
1960-61	13,295
1961-62	15,723
1962-63	16,882
1963-64	17,141
1964-65	18,095
1965-66	32,176

**Passengers and Goods Tax.**—The Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation Act, 1952, came into force on August 1, 1952. The Act provides that a tax shall be levied on all fares and freights

1. Rates were enhanced to Rs. 5.24 for Rohtak, Rs. 4.40 for Sonepat and Rs. 1.74 for other places and touring talkies during 1967-68.

2. The limit was enhanced to Rs. 15 on January 16, 1968.

in respect of passengers carried and goods transported in motor vehicles in the State. The rate of tax in 1965-66 was 25 per cent of the fare paid by a passenger.<sup>1</sup> In the case of motor-cycle rickshaws, taxies, tractors and public carriers, the levy was made in the form of a lump sum. The collections made under the Act during 1956-57 to 1965-66 are given below :—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1956-57	6,99,384
1957-58	9,16,886
1958-59	10,48,138
1959-60	12,82,690
1960-61	13,14,031
1961-62	13,60,488
1962-63	19,23,296
1963-64	27,74,255
1964-65	31,06,920
1965-66	35,37,236

**Central Sales Tax.**—The Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, provides for levy of tax on sales effected in the course of inter-State trade and commerce. The States have been authorised to administer this tax on behalf of the Government of India. The entire collection of the tax is being appropriated by the States. The rate of tax on 1966-67 was as under :

Inter-State sales to registered dealers	3 per cent
Inter-State sales to unregistered dealers	10 per cent
Declared goods to registered dealers	Up to 2 per cent (except at 1 per cent for resale to registered dealers)

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1. It was enhanced to 35 per cent on July 21, 1967.



The collections made under the Act were as follows:—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1957-58	1,24,501
1958-59	3,25,369
1959-60	3,90,207
1960-61	4,05,868
1961-62	3,63,391
1962-63	5,75,359
1963-64	7,96,779
1964-65	10,02,681
1965-66	24,67,975

### Central Sources of Revenue

**Central Excise Duties.**—The central excise is administered by the Central Government. The Rohtak district falls in the Rohtak Division under the charge of Assistant Collector, Central Excise, Rohtak. The work in the district is looked after by a Superintendent, Central Excise with his headquarters at Rohtak. He has got additional charge of the Hissar district also. He is assisted by Multiple Officers Range headed by a Deputy Superintendent, and three Inspectors Intelligence and Preventive, attached to him. The central excise duties are levied on tobacco, cotton fabrics, sugar and *khandsari*, paints and varnishes, vegetable non-essential oils, internal combustion engines, electric fans, staple fabrics, motor vehicles, trailers, glass and glasswares, china and porcelain wares, cotton yarn, sodium silicate, iron and steel products, electric wires and cables. It is not possible to give collections on the district basis.

**Income-tax.**—The Indian Income-tax Act of 1922 has been replaced by the Income-tax Act of 1961 with effect from

April 1, 1962. The collections under this Act for the years 1962-63 to 1965-66 were as follows:—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs. in thousands)
1962-63	2,528
1963-64	5,072
1964-65	3,577
1965-66	3,026

**Estate Duty.**—The Estate Duty Act, 1953 (34 of 1953) came into force on October 15, 1953. The duty is leviable on the estate of those dying after October 15, 1953. Proceedings for this levy have to be started within 5 years of the death but there is no time limit for completion of the assessment. The collections under this Act for the years 1962-63 to 1965-66 were as follows:—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs. in thousands)
1962-63	21
1963-64	13
1964-65	24
1965-66	9

**Wealth Tax.**—The Wealth Tax Act, 1957, came into force from the assessment year 1957-58. It is leviable in the case of an individual whose net wealth exceeds Rs. 1 lakh and in the case of Hindu un-divided family if its net wealth exceeds Rs. 2 lakhs. The collections under this Act for the years 1962-63 to 1965-66 were as follows:—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs. in thousands)
1962-63	12
1963-64	28
1964-65	—
1965-66	37



**Gift Tax.**—The Gift Tax Act, 1958, came into force on April 1, 1958. It is leviable on all gifts made after April 1, 1957 if the total value of the gifts (movable and immovable) exceeds Rs. 10,000. The collections under this Act for the years 1962-63 to 1965-66 were as follows:—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs. in thousands)
1962-63	7
1963-64	16
1964-65	88
1965-66	115

## CHAPTER XII

### LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

#### LAW AND ORDER

##### Incidence of Crime

During the seventies of the last century the population of the district was reported to be quiet and law-abiding.<sup>1</sup> Only Ranghars and butchers, and Jats from a few notorious villages lifted cattle and committed robberies. The crime position was reviewed in the 1920s and was reported to be light in this district.<sup>2</sup> The following figures indicate the trend of crime cases of all kinds brought to trial during 1880 to 1933:—

Year	Crime cases brought to trial
1880	1,607
1890	1,452
1900	1,670
(Average 1906 to 1910)	1,832
1921	2,326
1930	3,536
1933	4,092

The position, however, changed in the forties and many factors were responsible for this change. Consequent upon a famine in the

1. H. C. Fanshawe, *Report on the Revised Land Revenue Settlement of the Rohtak District, 1873-79*, p.69.

2. "With 2,919 square miles of area and a population of 7,70,000 Rohtak stands half-way down the list of 29 districts of the province in point of size and number of its inhabitants. Crime is, however, light and its position in the matter of crime and strength of the police is 22nd and 25th. There are 13 *thanas* with an average area of 224 square miles and only 4 or 5 of them have a more than ordinary burden of crime to deal with, the majority being rather lightly than heavily worked. There are town police in Rohtak, Jhajjar, Sonapat and Beri and in all of these, and particularly in Rohtak, some slight increases of existing police establishments are necessary. Rohtak town reports close on 100 cases a year and, with 25,000 inhabitants, it is poorly staffed with 4 Head Constables and 33 Constables only."

(*Report of the Punjab Provincial Police Committee, 1926*, p.56.)



district there was a marked rise in crimes in 1939. Inadequacy of canal water-supply and frequent closures of distributaries added to the difficulties of the peasants who, for irrigating their withering crops, resorted to unlawful means with the result that canal cuts prohibited under the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873, were numerous.<sup>1</sup> The Civil Disobedience Movement produced a crop of cases under the Defence of India Rules in 1939. There was considerable strain on the district police during the Quit India Movement in 1942. A communal riot over cow-slaughter also occurred in village Barota.<sup>2</sup> The Partition in 1947 found the entire governmental machinery in a state of paralysis. The Police Department in particular had to bear the brunt of the after-effects of the Partition. Its strength was badly depleted by the migration of Muslim personnel who constituted approximately 67 per cent of the total force of the pre-Partition Province. The balance of about 33 per cent non-Muslim police was, therefore, called upon to deal with a highly tumultuous situation. Many uprooted people, having been reduced to utter want and misery, were driven to commit crime. The communal disturbances of 1947 resulted in diminishing respect for law and moral values. The depleted police force had to perform a Herculean task to combat the heavy spate of lawlessness and to restore confidence in the minds of the law-abiding people.<sup>3</sup>

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1. Canal cuts during the floods in recent years were again numerous. But this time it was done not to irrigate their withering crops, but to divert the flow of flood water.

2. The village, situated in Gohana tahsil, comprised two parts, one inhabited by Hindu Jats and the other by Muslim Baluchas. A Baluch slaughtered a cow and this enraged the Jats. There was a scuffle between Hindus and Muslims as a result of which one Baluch died and several others received injuries. The dispute ended in a compromise, according to which Hindu Jats were not to rear pigs while the Muslims were forbidden to slaughter kine.

3. The following extract from the speech of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel delivered at Phillaur on the 6th March, 1949, describes aptly the achievements of Police :—

"I know the difficulties and disaster which overtook the Punjab Police during the period of the Partition. Your force was depleted terribly and quickly you had to begin from a scratch. It is well-known that the vast majority of your force was constituted by a community which chose to separate and preferred to go to the other side. After such a partition and the period of communal disturbances—a parallel of which is not known, you had to face great difficulties and you have in fact performed a miracle in re-organising your force in a such short time and in such a splendid manner."

The work of the police had further been rendered difficult as a result of certain changes effected for political reasons. The abolition of non-official agencies like the Honorary Magistrates, Zaildars and Sufedposhes which, in the previous regime, were a source of strength to the administration deprived the police administration of support in its work in the rural areas. Without them, the morale of the remaining rural functionaries such as the Lambardars and Chowkidars fell so low that they no longer enjoyed either their former status, or the confidence of the villagers.

In the circumstances the lawless element coming to India with the general body of displaced persons from West Pakistan, took advantage of the weakening of the administrative machinery by increasing its nefarious activities. A new class of criminals was also born from among some displaced persons settled in urban areas who had exhausted their resources and were forced into a life of crime for want of employment. It is, therefore, no wonder that due to an all-round increase in crime Rohtak became one of the six districts showing the highest increase in 1948.<sup>1</sup> The police recovered illicit arms in large quantities and detected a large number of cases of illicit distillation.

In spite of difficulties, vigorous efforts were made to weed out, curb and control antisocial elements. Before long, the forces of law and order were re-established and the administration got the better of crime and the criminal. Consequently, from 1950 onwards, there was a distinct improvement in the law and order situation. As time passed, the social and economic conditions in the State became normal. Although there continued to be a further increase in true cognizable crime cases of all kinds in East Punjab as a whole, there was an appreciable decrease of such cases in the Rohtak district.<sup>2</sup> The number of such cases in 1957 was the lowest

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1. In 1948 all the districts in the then Punjab showed an increase in crime cases except Ferozepur district, which showed a decrease of 578. The districts showing the largest increase were Karnal (1,650), Amritsar (1,325), Gurdaspur (1,286), Ludhiana (945), Hissar (783) and Rohtak (725).

(*Report on Police Administration in the Punjab for the year 1948*, p.1.)

2. "Again for the whole of the Punjab the number of true cognizable crime cases of all kinds dealt with by the Police during the year 1950 was 69,092 as compared with 62,300 during the year 1949, an increase of 6,792 cases."

"The districts showing largest decreases were Rohtak (133) and Hissar (53)."  
(*Report on Police Administration in the Punjab for the year 1950*, pp. 1-2.)



since 1944. Table XXXIII of Appendix gives the number of true cognizable crime cases of all kinds (Class I to VI)<sup>1</sup> dealt with by the police in the district during 1942—65 while Table XXXIV of Appendix shows the incidence of different kinds of crime during the same period.

**Rioting.**—Personal enmities and disputes over possession of land flaring up from momentary provocations are primarily responsible for riots in rural areas. Sometimes, people other than those who actually partook in rioting are involved. The incidence of rioting varies each year. The largest number of cases, 78 in number, occurred in 1957 while in 1961 only 8 cases were registered. \*

**Assault on public servants.**—Thirty-eight cases of assault on Government officials, a symptom of weakening of prestige of the forces of law and order, occurred in 1948. After Independence, people became greatly critical and vocal and showed an increasing tendency to undermine the authority of public servants and laying a greater stress on fundamental rights than their corresponding duties. However, with the passage of time, the number of such cases fell to 7 in 1958.

**Murder.**—Some of the motives for murder in this district, as elsewhere, include land disputes, intoxication, illicit relations and domestic quarrels. This district is predominantly inhabited by sturdy Jats who are exceptionally revengeful by nature and among whom the tradition of long lasting vendetta is very strong.

Murder statistics are slippery and fluctuating. Murder cases were the highest during 1947, the year of the Partition, whereafter these gradually reverted to normal. Table XXXV of Appendix illustrates the position of murder cases during 1938—65.

**Suicide.**—Suicides by women, by jumping into wells with their children, are a peculiar feature of the Rohtak district. Every year

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1. Class I to VI signify all cognizable offences under Indian Penal Code and Local and Special Laws.

there are four or five such cases. Women have to work exceedingly hard, helping in agricultural operations apart from doing the household chores, cutting grass and pulling water from deep wells. Excessive toil leads to frayed nerves which often prompt them to commit suicide under pressure of personal disappointment of some kind or other.<sup>1</sup>

**Dacoity.**—Like murder, the incidence of dacoity was also high during the years after the Partition. There were seven cases in 1947, nine in 1948, seven in 1949 and six in 1950. No dacoity has occurred during recent years except one in 1958. The influence of anti-dacoity staff has been salutary. Issue of gun licences to respectable residents for village defence and measures to recover illicit fire-arms and arrest notorious dacoits have resulted in a steady improvement.

A gang, headed by one Banwari of Rajasthan and responsible for cases of dacoity in the Rohtak and Hissar districts and in Rajasthan, was liquidated by the Rajasthan Police in 1950. Banwari had 3 members of his gang from the Rohtak district and one from Hissar. The Rohtak Police arrested 3 members belonging to Rohtak while the Hissar Police shot dead the Hissar dacoit. Banwari used to kidnap rich persons and released them only after obtaining ransom. The activities of the gang had created panic in Rajasthan and Punjab. Sardar Patel, the then Deputy Prime Minister of India, called a meeting of officers of both the States at Pilani (Rajasthan) for devising ways and means to liquidate the gang. A few weeks after the meeting, Banwari was shot dead by the Rajasthan Police and the gang liquidated. Another gang headed by another Banwari<sup>2</sup> of the Rohtak district was

1. In one case a woman jumped into a well with her two minor children for her husband, who was a soldier in the army, was unable to take her with him. In another case a girl committed suicide by jumping into a well with a suckling as her husband would not send her to her parents. In another case, a woman jumped into a well with her 4-month old child on account of ill treatment by her mother-in-law.

2. Banwari of Rohtak was a great menace to public peace and tranquillity. He was a type of person who committed murders without a semblance of provocation and often without any reason. He was wanted in no less than 10 cases of murder, attempted murder, robbery and burglary committed between 1947—1950 and had created a reign of terror in the jurisdiction of Sampla, Rai, Bahadurgarh, Sonapat and Jhajjar Police Stations. On June 29/30, 1950, a round-up operation was carried out by the district police which combed an area within a radius of about 6 miles surrounding Asandah (taluk Jhajjar), home village of Banwari, and killed the desperado.



liquidated in 1950. This broke the den of highway robbers in the district and exercised a salutary effect on potentially dangerous criminals. Hemraj's Jat Gang and Deepa's Brahman Gang, which had continued their depredations in the district and the surrounding areas for some time past, were exterminated in 1954. Though there was no important gang or gangster in the district after the liquidation of these two gangs, a threat to the tranquillity of the district was posed in 1961-62 by the formation of the Bhartu Gang in the neighbouring district of Hissar. However, with the co-operation of the Rohtak Police that gang was also liquidated.

**Robbery.**—The incidence of robbery, which was already very high in the district, showed an alarming increase during 1947—50.<sup>1</sup> The situation was brought under control through intensive and extensive patrolling by mounted police, organizing booby traps in affected areas and arming the responsible section of the populace. Since 1951 the incidence of crime has steadily decreased year after year. There were 3 cases each in 1960, 1962 and 1963, and 4 in 1964.

**Burglary.**—There was a sudden increase in the incidence of this form of crime after the Partition in 1948 as compared to the previous years. The crime situation was brought to normal about 1950 when the district figured as one showing considerable decrease in burglary cases. The crime, however, registered a slight increase during 1953, 1955 and 1959 whereafter it steadily decreased as compared to the period prior to 1955.

The proportion of untraced burglary cases is high. Many cases remain untraced as valuable evidence or traces left behind by the culprits is carelessly effaced before the police arrives.

**Theft.**—Except for a spurt in 1947—50, the number of cases of theft has been steadily on the decline.

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1. Two gangs of robbers, one led by Hukam Chand and the other by Harbhajan Singh and Matu Singh—all educated youths—were responsible for many a highway robbery. They were rounded up in 1950. The same year two other highway robbers, Bhagwana of Bhlwani and Ram Chander, were shot dead. They used to rob passengers coming from and going to Jharli railway station.

**Cattle-lifting.**—Like other forms of crime, cattle-lifting also increased after the Partition. There was a great demand for cattle in the rural areas to meet the increased requirements due to migration of displaced persons for both dry and milch cattle. The *taccavi* given by Government to the settlers was either inadequate or was not offered in time. The demand for cattle being high, *rassagirs* and cattle thieves did the notorious trade. Moreover, a large number of cattle, lifted from Rohtak as also from the Ambala, Karnal and Hissar districts, were passed on to the districts of Uttar Pradesh, notably Saharanpur, Meerut and Muzaffarnagar where they fetched high prices. A big drop in cattle-lifting was registered in 1954<sup>1</sup> whereafter the number of cases has decreased with fluctuations.

**Loss and recovery of arms.**—The highest number of cases, i.e. eight, relating to the theft of fire-arms in the district, was reported in 1958. No case was reported during 1954 and 1955. The district police has carried out systematic raids to recover fire-arms.

**Traffic in women.**—This kind of crime is really a social evil. Girls from the lower strata of society easily fall a victim to the temptations of a comfortable and fashionable life held out by the culprits. Laxity of morals, lack of education and persecution of women among some low castes are other factors responsible for it. But in the Rohtak district, there are minor cases of this offence and trafficking as such, in which women are traded for immorality, does not exist.

The district is practically free from kidnappers, abductors or child lifters.

**Counterfeiting of coins and forgery of currency notes.**—A few cases of counterfeiting of coins and forgery of currency notes were detected in the district during 1952, 1956 and 1960.

**Local and special laws.**—The crimes under this head comprise cases of public nuisance and those under the Public Gambling Act, 1867, the Indian Arms Act, 1878, the Opium Act, 1878, the Indian Railways Act, 1890, the Punjab Excise Act, 1914, the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947 and the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

**Bootleggers and smugglers.**—Under the orders of Government, Rohtak became a dry district in 1948. On the basis of experience gained during these 19 years prohibition was scrapped on April 1,

1. 38 cases in 1954 as against 102 in 1949.



1967. During the period, apart from other reasons, Government realised steadily that crime resulting from smuggling of liquor into and distillation of illicit liquor in the district itself exercised a heavy strain on the police, which was already overworked.

**Road traffic and transport.**—Road traffic is regulated by (i) Sections 279, 304A, 337 and 338 of the Indian Penal Code, (ii) The Stage-carriages Act, 1861, (iii) The Hackney-carriages Act, 1879, (iv) The Police Act, 1861, (v) The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1890, (vi) The Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, (vii) The Punjab Motor-Vehicles Taxation Act, 1924, (viii) The Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1914, and (ix) The Motor Vehicles Act, 1939. In spite of this fact the incidence of motor vehicle accidents in the district has increased since 1954. This is due to the increasing number of motor vehicles and other means of transport plying on the roads and the lack of consciousness of 'Safety First' principles.

## POLICE

**Brief history.**—The integrated and specialised police organisation, as it exists today, is essentially a legacy of the British regime. With the transfer of this district from North-Western Provinces to the Punjab after 1857, arrangements for maintenance of law and order then existing in the Punjab were introduced here as well. A few years later the police system was reorganised in accordance with the recommendations of the Police Commission of 1861. Further improvements were introduced on the recommendations of the Second Police Commission of 1902.

The economic and political unrest of the twenties posed serious problems in the maintenance of public order and revealed considerable deficiencies in police strength. This led to the appointment, in November 1925, of Punjab Provincial Police Committee headed by Lumsden. The committee submitted its report in 1926. The recommendations of the Lumsden Committee were adopted. There was, however, no comprehensive survey of the needs and requirements of the police force, of man-power and equipment. Increase in the urban population and rapid industrialisation and leftist propaganda resulting in labour troubles, threw fresh multiplied burdens on the police. While this happened, no corresponding increase in the strength of the police force was made nor did the salaries keep pace with the rising prices. To review the needs and problems of the police force, the State Government constituted

the Punjab Police Commission headed by late Mehr Chand Mahajan, retired Chief Justice of Supreme Court, in 1961 to enquire into and report on the role of the police. Its terms of reference incorporating all aspects of police administration were exhaustive. The recommendations of the Police Commission were made in May 1962 and are being implemented.

**Organization of police.**—For the purpose of police administration, the Rohtak district falls in Ambala Range which is under the charge of the Deputy Inspector General of Police who functions under the overall control of the Inspector General of Police, Haryana, Chandigarh. The district police is controlled by the Superintendent of Police assisted by two Deputy Superintendents of Police and a number of Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables and Constables. Village Chowkidars or Watchmen also assist the police. The strength of the police in the district is as follows :—

	Superintendent of police	Deputy Superintendent of police	Inspectors	Sub-Inspectors	Assistant Sub-Inspectors	Head Constables	Constables
<b>EXECUTIVE POLICE</b>							
<b>Civil Police</b>							
Permanent	1	1	2	18	39	83	608
Temporary	1	1	1	4	12	33	171
<b>Armed Police</b>							
(1st, 2nd and 3rd Reserves)							
Permanent	—	—	—	1	1	7	64
Temporary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Mounted Police</b>							
Permanent	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Temporary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>PROSECUTION STAFF</b>							
Permanent	—	—	1	9	—	2	11
Temporary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>860</b>



There are 14 *thanas* or police stations and 8 police posts, a list of which is given in Chapter on 'General Administration'.

**Civil police.**—Civil police is utilized for duty at the police stations. Of the 14 police stations, 5 are in the urban and 9 in the rural areas. Each is under the charge of a police officer, known as the Station House Officer, assisted by one Second Officer, a Head Constable, a Moharrir or Clerk-Head Constable and a number of Constables. It is the duty of the Station House Officer to maintain peace in the circle as well as to investigate offences occurring within his jurisdiction.

**Armed police.**—The Provincial Additional Police in the pre-Partition Punjab was a temporary force, largely manned by Muslims. At the time of the Partition, the East Punjab got a small force of only 980 comprising all ranks. Besides protecting railways and vulnerable points (like power houses, tube-wells, bridges other than railway bridges) and providing a central reserve, this force was also entrusted with the tremendous task of protecting the border separating East (India) and West (Pakistan) Punjab. Extensive recruitment had, therefore, to be carried out immediately but it was restricted to ex-army personnel, because men were needed at once and the training of civilian recruits would have taken time. This rapid recruitment had its drawbacks and a number of undersirables also crept into the force. They were, however, gradually weeded out later on.

The Provincial Additional Police was rechristened as the Provincial Armed Police on December 15, 1947, and thereafter designated as the Punjab Armed Police on April 11, 1961. Since November 1966, it has been called the Haryana Armed Police. In the Rohtak district it is presently deployed on protection of important vulnerable points.

**Mounted police.**—This force is kept in the Reserve Police Lines. It is useful for general patrolling in towns and for maintaining traffic control.

**Prosecution staff.**—The Prosecution Branch at the district headquarters is under the charge of the Prosecution Inspector.

**Criminal Investigation Department.**—After the Partition, the Crime Branch of the C. I. D. functioned under very difficult and abnormal circumstances. The history sheets and personal files of confirmed criminals were obtained from Lahore after some time. In the intervening period such criminals as had migrated with the general

popoulation, operated freely. However, with sustained and careful action the Crime Branch was able to evolve a suitable measure of supervision over these criminals before they could do much mischief.

The existence of a large number of unlicensed weapons in the countryside in 1947 also created a grave law and order problem. The Crime Branch helped the district police appreciably in the recovery of illicit arms.

The strength of the C. I. D. staff in the district is : Inspector 1, Sub-Inspector 1, Assistant Sub-Inspectors 5, Head Constables 4, and Constables 34.

**Police wireless station.**—The police wireless organisation performs a most useful function. It provides the quickest means of transmission of messages and is the only dependable source when other means of communication, e. g. telephone or telegraph, have broken down. In the maintenance of law and order and in dealing with emergencies requiring quick transmission of news and immediate action, the system plays a vital role. Armed Reserves can be rushed to a disturbed area and movements of dangerous criminals from one district to another can be conveyed immediately.

The network of the wireless communication system, with headquarters at Rohtak is connected with all the district headquarters. Further, a number of mobile wireless stations are also provided as and when needed. The Police Wireless Station at Rohtak remains open for 24 hours by shifts. The staff consists of 1 Sub-Inspector and 3 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, all trained in wireless technique.

**Railway police.**—It is not allotted to any district in particular but is a part of a separate State organization working under an Assistant Inspector-General of Police. The circles of the railway police are formed according to sections of the railway lines. The headquarters of the railway police which controls crime on the railways in the Rohtak district are at Jind, Karnal and Rewari. In addition there are two outposts, viz. (i) Government Railway Police Outpost, Rohtak; and (ii) Government Railway Police Outpost, Sonapat.

**Home Guards.**—This is a national service organisation evolved to meet miscellaneous needs of the civil population as they arise. In



the first phase beginning with March 1961, 20 (Indep) Coy's were raised in the urban Wing in all important towns of Punjab. In the following second phase 33 more (Indep) Coy's were raised in all other graded towns. Out of these 53 (Indep) Coy's, two were raised at Rohtak and Sonapat. Training is imparted on alternate days for 3 months and thereafter once a week.

The trainees are trained in drill with and without arms, fire-fighting, first-aid, warden duties, maintaining essential services and in helping the civil authorities. They are also trained in using weapons, taking cover, judging distance, driving, boating, patrolling and performing general duties. The Home Guards have discharged their duties efficiently on various occasions particularly at the time of floods, Chinese aggression in 1962, Pakistani aggression in 1965 and the General Elections of 1962 and 1967.

**Village police.**—For over a century the police functions at village level were performed by Zaildars, Safedposhes, Chowkidars and Inamkhors. The institution of *chowkidari* alone has survived, all others were abolished in 1948. The Chowkidars report births and deaths in a *thana* fortnightly, give information of crimes, keep surveillance over the bad characters residing in the village and report their movements. Besides attending to watch and ward duties, they render general assistance to officers on tour.

In the remote past the village Chowkidar used to receive, as his remuneration, a share from each cultivator's produce which was reckoned according to the number of hearths. Now the Chowkidars, with the exception of those in Gohana, Kharkhanda, Bahadurgarh and Maham, are paid from collection made from the land-owners of the respective villages. At Maham there is a *chowkidari* tax and the Chowkidars in Municipal towns are paid from municipal funds.

Mention may also be made of *thikar* Chowkidars who are selected by lot from among the residents of the village; those unwilling to serve are obliged to pay the cost of a substitute. These Chowkidars are provided only during emergencies. With the advent of democratic decentralisation, this *chowkidari* system has become very weak and people are averse to *Thikri Pehara*. The police has to persuade them to implement this system in villages where crime is rampant. The Punjab Gram

Panchayat Act, 1952, has however authorised *panchayats* to raise their own voluntary force for the purpose.

### District Jail

The District Jail situated opposite the District Courts on the Rohtak-Delhi road is under the charge of a Superintendent, who is assisted by 1 Deputy Superintendent, 1 Assistant Superintendent, 1 Sub-Assistant Superintendent, 1 Welfare Officer and other miscellaneous staff.

The authorised accommodation for all classes of prisoners is 207. The prisoners are classified as A, B and C according to their education, social status and financial resources. There were 128 habitual offenders in 1965; the habituals undergoing a long term are generally transferred to the Central Jail, Ambala. The juvenile delinquents are sent to Hissar. No prisoner is released under the Punjab Good Conduct Prisoners (Temporary Release) Act, 1962, directly from this jail. The prisoners selected for release are transferred to the Central Jail, Ambala, from where they are dealt with by the Probation Officer.

There is a separate ward for women prisoners. A matron looks after the women prisoners and also acts as associate during the night if only one inmate is confined in the ward. The ward is regularly visited by non-official women visitors to ensure that women prisoners are well looked after. The women section, however, is meant only for those awaiting trial or undergoing sentence not exceeding one month. Women with longer terms of imprisonment are transferred to the Central Jail, Ambala.

The jail dispensary has a ten-bed ward for in-patients. Serious cases are sent for treatment to the Civil Hospital or the Medical College Hospital. Preventive measures are taken to protect the inmates of the jail from infectious diseases. The Medical Officer of the jail functions under the overall control of the Chief Medical Officer, Rohtak.

**Welfare of prisoners.**—Measures of jail reform need a detailed reference. Prior to the implementation of the recommendations of the Jails Reforms Committee, a prisoner was allowed to have only one interview and write only one postcard in a month. This facility has been liberalised very much. Better clothing and utensils are now provided. A prisoner is now issued a brass *thali* (plate) in addition to a brass *bati* (bowl) in place of an iron *bati*. The rough clothing has



been replaced by good *khadi* clothes. To create a sense of responsibility and trust among the prisoners they are associated with work connected with their welfare through a *panchayati* system. This is working successfully and is of great value in the maintenance of discipline.

The system of releasing the prisoners on parole and furlough was introduced in June 1962.<sup>1</sup> This authorises jail authorities to recommend leave to a prisoner for legitimate reasons subject to certain rules, for 2 to 6 weeks once a year. His presence at home may be necessitated by the serious illness of a member of his family; he may have to build a house or arrange the marriage of his son or daughter or sow or reap his crops.

Measures are taken for the moral, social and mental uplift of the prisoners and to effect a change in their attitude and criminal tendencies. Elementary education is compulsory, and is imparted by a paid teacher, assisted by convict teachers who are given cash rewards/remissions. The District Crime Prevention Society, Rohtak, also assists in this work by providing reading and writing material. Literacy tests are conducted by the Education Department and certificates are awarded to those who qualify.

Various amenities have been provided to make the lot of the prisoners easy. A library-cum-reading room has been established, where newspapers and periodicals and instructive and informative pamphlets are provided. It also serves as a forum where the prisoners discuss their problems, chat and gossip or listen to the radio. A canteen was started in 1961 with funds subscribed by the prisoners. The prisoners are issued coupons of the value of the amount they deposit with the jail authorities and they can get their daily requirements against these coupons. Cultural and recreational programmes are also arranged. Apart from lectures on moral, social, national and religious subjects, games, physical training and wrestling are organized and cinema shows are held. The prisoners themselves stage a number of variety programmes on different occasions.

The concept of prison labour has also changed. In order to run jail industries on commercial lines, and to provide training and incentive to prisoners for hard and honest work, a wage-earning scheme was introduced in 1964 according to which gratuity

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1. Vide the Punjab Good Conduct Prisoners (Temporary Release) Act, 1962.

was given from the profits earned.<sup>1</sup> The prisoners make *ban*, *munj* mats, *niwar* and chicks, bind books, do wood work and prepare soap and phenol. Those who have an aptitude for agriculture and horticulture, are trained on the adjoining farm. In this way these prisoners earn while they learn and a part of this earning can be spent by them for their daily requirements of toilet articles, tea, *bidis*, etc. They can also remit this amount to their dependents at home or get it added to their account to be paid to them on their release. This scheme has resulted in an increase in the proceeds from the produce from about Rs. 10,000 in 1960 to about Rs. 98,000 in 1966. The income from the jail garden has risen from about Rs. 4,600 to about Rs. 13,200 in the same period. These figures certainly reflect a change in the outlook of prisoners and the degree of success achieved.

**Official and non-official visitors.**—The visits of official and non-official visitors prove very useful to the jail administration. These visits create a healthy atmosphere among the inmates, who realise that despite their being behind bars, they are properly looked after and cared for. This produces confidence in them and leads to better discipline. The visits also serve as a liaison between the officials and the convicts. The recommendations made by these visitors are given due consideration by the jail authorities and ways and means are devised collectively to ameliorate the lot of the prisoners.

**District Crime Prevention Society.**—Since its inception in 1954, this Society has done commendable work. It has provided two radio sets with a unit of amplifier and a microphone for the entertainment of prisoners. It has also decorated the walls of the jail hospital with photographs in order to create a cheerful environment. The Society helps the needy and poor prisoners with elementary necessities like oil, soap and shoes and arranges reading and writing material for them. Sweets are distributed on Independence and Republic days.

## JUSTICE

There are three kinds of courts existing in the district, viz. civil, criminal and revenue.

### Civil Courts

On the civil side the administration of justice in the district is

1. Under this scheme, prison labour is graded as skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled with different rates of gratuity for each grade, and the gratuity can be earned on completion of work of prescribed quality and quantity.



handed by the District and Sessions Judge, Rohtak<sup>1</sup> who is assisted by an Additional District and Sessions Judge, the Senior Sub-Judge, Rohtak, and three Sub-Judges, posted one each at Rohtak, Sonapat and Jhajjar.

The judges of Civil Courts try cases of civil nature according to the powers with which each Sub-Judge and the Senior Sub-Judge has been invested. The Sub-Judges 1st Class have unlimited pecuniary jurisdiction including rent cases, succession certificates and others, while the Senior Sub-Judge tries all such cases, in addition to insolvency cases, guardianship cases and does appellate work up to a certain limit. Since October 2, 1964, all the Sub-Judges have been invested with the powers of Judicial Magistrate 1st Class.

### Criminal Courts

Prior to the separation of the judiciary from the executive (October 2, 1964), the organisation of criminal justice was controlled by the District Magistrate who was assisted by Additional District Magistrate, Rohtak, Magistrate 1st Class, Rohtak, General Assistant Rohtak, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Sonapat, Resident Magistrate 1st Class, Serapat, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Jhajjar and Resident Magistrate 1st Class, Gohana.

The District Magistrate and the Magistrates working under him dealt with all types of crime cases. The criminals were produced before the Magistrate 1st Class in whose jurisdiction such criminals were apprehended or in whose jurisdiction the crime was committed. The jurisdiction of the Magistrates was delimited in the district by the District Magistrate and in his absence or with his approval, by the Additional District Magistrate. Generally, their jurisdiction coincided with that of the police stations. The jurisdiction of a Magistrate 1st Class usually extended to 3 to 4 police stations. The District Magistrate had executive control over the Magistrates whereas the District and Sessions Judge exercised judicial control as he heard appeals against their orders in judicial cases.

The Magistrates were called upon to perform executive functions along with their judicial duties. During emergencies arising from floods, famines, fire, locust invasions, epidemics, earthquakes, war, elections, communal riots and political agitations, the criminal judicial work

1. The jurisdiction of the District and Sessions Judge, Rohtak, extends to Jind. The Additional District and Sessions Judge visits Jind for the disposal of judicial cases.

was to be suspended and all the Magistrates were called upon to concentrate on the immediate and the urgent problems facing the district.

Since the separation of the judiciary from the executive, the administration of both civil and criminal justice has been transferred to District and Sessions Judge, Rohtak. He is assisted by an Additional District and Sessions Judge, a Chief Judicial Magistrate, and nine Judicial Magistrates, four of them posted at Rohtak, two at Sonapat, two at Jhajjar and one at Gohana. Although all of them deal with civil and criminal work, one each at Rohtak, Sonapat and Jhajjar is primarily a Sub-Judge, while still another at Rohtak is a Senior Sub-Judge. The distribution of criminal work is done by the Chief Judicial Magistrate and he is invested with the powers of transferring cases from one court to another.<sup>1</sup> The civil work is distributed by the Senior Sub-Judge. However, the transferring authority in civil cases is the District Judge.

After the passing of the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, some of the functions of the civil, criminal and revenue courts have been made over to the *panchayats*. Where cases lie in the exclusive jurisdiction of the *panchayats*, their cognizance by other courts is barred. Petty cases thus have been taken away from the jurisdiction of civil, criminal and revenue courts and are now decided by the *panchayats*. The Chief Judicial Magistrate, is empowered to revise their decisions and he in turn can delegate these powers to the Illaqa Magistrate.

### Revenue Courts

The Collector is the highest revenue judicial authority in the district and an appeal or revision against his orders lies to the Commissioner. An appeal or revision against the orders of the Commissioner lies to the Financial Commissioner. The Government has invested the Sub-Divisional Officers (Civil), apart from the Deputy Commissioner, with the powers of the Collector. The General Assistant/Assistant Commissioner/Extra Assistant Commissioner are Assistant Collectors of the I Grade. In certain cases the General Assistant is invested with the powers of the Collector. Tahsildars and Naib Tahsildars exercise powers of Assistant Collector of the II Grade. However, a Tahsildar assumes powers of Assistant Collector of the I Grade in partition cases.

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1. These powers of the Chief Judicial Magistrate are concurrent with the powers vested in the District and Sessions Judge.



### Bar Associations

There is a District Bar Association at the district headquarters and a separate bar association at each tahsil headquarters. Their total membership is about 200. Of this, the strength of the District Bar Association has risen from 40 members before the Partition to 125. These bar associations work under the control of the State Bar Council.

A legal practitioner eligible to practise as a lawyer must become a member of a bar association. The association promotes the administration of law and justice and protects and safeguards the rights and privileges of the members belonging to the legal profession in general and the members of the association in particular.

The Bar Association, Rohtak, was founded in 1900. Over the years, it has produced eminent personalities, such as late Lal Chand and late Chhotu Ram, who in addition to their professional work, have played an important role in the social and political life of the country.

Before March 1, 1955, for judicial administration the Rohtak district was tagged to the Karnal district and as such only one District and Sessions Judge was appointed for the two districts. Finding this arrangement cumbersome for lawyers as well as litigants, the Bar represented against it and as a result, a separate District and Sessions Judge was posted at Rohtak.

In 1960, the Bar Association, Rohtak, represented that as the black coat or black gown as prescribed court dress was very irksome and inconvenient for lawyers during the summer, they might be exempted from wearing it. This request was acceded to by the Punjab High Court.

## CHAPTER XIII

### OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The organizational set-up, staff, duties and functions of the departments not mentioned in other chapters, are briefly given here.

#### Public Works Department

The three wings of the Public Works Department located in the district are : (i) Public Health Engineering (ii) Buildings and Roads and (iii) Irrigation.

##### (i) PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

**Public Health Division, Rohtak.**—This division which has been functioning since 1950 is headed by an Executive Engineer and functions under the overall control of a Superintending Engineer located at Rohtak.<sup>1</sup> The Division undertakes the execution of works relating to drainage (other than land drainage), sewerage, water-supply and sanitary installations in rural and urban areas. It also provides public health amenities in Government buildings. During recent years, besides completing water-supply scheme in Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar and Beri towns and similar schemes in rural areas, the Division has also completed water-supply, sewerage and sanitary works in the Medical College, Rohtak.

##### (ii) BUILDINGS AND ROADS

The buildings and roads in the Rohtak district are looked after by Rohtak Provincial Division and partly by Gurgaon Construction Division. Rohtak Provincial Division has four sub-divisions, three at Rohtak and one at Gohana. Gurgaon Construction Division has two sub-divisions, one at Sonapat and one at Bahadurgarh, besides other sub-divisions outside this district. Both the divisions function under the Superintending Engineer, Gurgaon Circle, Gurgaon. At State level the Controlling Officer is the Chief Engineer.

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1. The Superintending Engineer is in charge of the Public Health Circle, Rohtak, which came into existence in 1960. His jurisdiction extends to the Rohtak, Gurgaon, Mahendragarh and Hissar districts. At State level, the controlling officer is the Chief Engineer under whom there are Superintending Engineers who control about four Executive Engineers each.



## (iii) IRRIGATION

A brief description of the three offices located in the district and functioning under the overall control of the Chief Engineer, Running Canals, Haryana, is given below :

**Rohtak Division, Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal, Rohtak.**—The Executive Engineer holds charge of this Division under the Superintending Engineer, Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal (West Circle), Rohtak. He is assisted by three Sub-Divisional Officers and a Deputy Collector. Of these, one Sub-Divisional Officer functions at Bainsi in Gohana tahsil, the two others at Safidon (Jind district) and Dadri (Mahendragarh district). The Deputy Collector whose headquarters are at Rohtak, is in charge of canal water distribution and the assessment of revenue on that account.

This Division is mainly concerned with the development of canal irrigation and drainage works. Its outstanding achievements after Independence are the remodelling of the Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal system and the construction of Dadri channels.

**Haryana Division, Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal, Rohtak.**—The Executive Engineer in charge of this Division also functions under the Superintending Engineer, Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal (West Circle), Rohtak. He is assisted by three Sub-Divisional Officers, viz. (1) Sub-Divisional Officer, Jhajjar, (2) Sub-Divisional Officer, Bhalaut at Rohtak and (3) Sub-Divisional Officer, Dulehra at Rohtak. One Deputy Collector, as in Rohtak Division, functions here also.

The main projects completed by this division are the Dulehra and Jhajjar distributaries, the construction of which was undertaken in 1942-43. An additional area of 1,93,028 acres was thus brought under irrigation. Presently, the remodelling of Bhalaut Sub-Branch System and Rewari Lift Scheme is in hand. Rewari Lift Scheme is a major project costing about Rs. 107 lakhs. It covers 88 villages of Jhajjar tahsil of the Rohtak district, 26 villages of Gurgaon tahsil and 36 villages of Rewari tahsil of the Gurgaon district and 8 villages of Dadri tahsil of the Mahendragarh district. The district-wise total mileage of channels under this scheme is :

Rohtak	98.16 miles
Gurgaon	48.69 miles
Mahendragarh	5.78 miles

**Rohtak Drainage Division, Rohtak.**—The Executive Engineer in charge of this Division is under the control of the Superintending Engineer, Drainage Circle, Karnal. He is assisted by three Sub-Divisional Officers, viz. (1) Sub-Divisional Officer, Drainage Sub-Division No. IV, Rohtak, (2) Sub-Divisional Officer, Drainage Sub-Division No. I, Gohana and (3) Sub-Divisional Officer, Drainage Sub-Division No. II, Sonapat. The control of floods in the Rohtak district and part of Karnal district and diversion and remodelling of existing drains are the main functions of this Division. Its anti-flood achievements have been described in the Chapter on 'Agriculture and Irrigation'.

#### **Haryana State Electricity Board,<sup>1</sup> Rohtak Division, Rohtak**

This Division comprises mainly the Rohtak, Jhajjar and Gohana tahsils and parts of the Sonapat tahsil. The Executive Engineer of the Division is under the Superintending Engineer, Haryana State Electricity Board, Delhi Circle, Delhi.<sup>2</sup> The sub-divisions under the jurisdiction of this Division are : Rohtak Operation Sub-Division No. 1, Rohtak with sub-offices at Beri, Bhalaut and Kharikhauda; Rohtak Operation Sub-Division No. 2, Rohtak; Rohtak Construction Sub-Division, Rohtak; Gohana Operation Sub-Division, Gohana with sub-offices at Kalanaur, Kahnaur and Bhatgaon; and Jhajjar Operation Sub-Division at Jhajjar with sub-offices at Machhrauli, Kosli, Jahazgarh and Sampla.

The main functions of the Division are to supply and maintain electricity to urban and rural areas falling under its jurisdiction and to give new industrial and general connections. This Division is concerned with the supply of power for tubewells and other augmentation and replacement works. In all 146 villages were electrified by this Division by March 1967.<sup>3</sup>

#### **Co-operative Department**

This department is represented by the Assistant Registrars

1. Prior to May 2, 1967, the Punjab State Electricity Board functioned as a common board for both the States, viz. Punjab and Haryana.

2. Since September 1967, the administrative control of this Division has been transferred to the Superintending Engineer, Hissar Circle, Hissar.

3. Certain portions of the Rohtak district are covered by other Divisions, viz. Bhiwani, Sonapat, Panipat and Delhi. Out of 761 villages in the district, only 259 were electrified by March 31, 1967.



Co-operative Societies, Rohtak and Sonapat.<sup>1</sup> Both the Assistant Registrars function under the administrative control of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Haryana, Chandigarh through the Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Rohtak. The administrative jurisdiction of the Deputy Registrar extends over the whole of Haryana State except the Karnal district. The Assistant Registrars are responsible for the healthy growth and development of the co-operative movement. They make sure that agriculturists receive adequate and timely supply of short, medium and long term credit through Central Co-operative Banks, Land Mortgage Banks, Agricultural Credit Societies, etc.

They also arrange for the supply of agricultural requisites such as chemical fertilizers, improved seeds, insecticides and pesticides. The produce of the agriculturists is routed through the marketing co-operatives in order to ensure better and remunerative prices to them. Besides, consumer goods like sugar, foodgrains, kerosene oil, are also arranged for them through a network of village service co-operatives.

There is another Assistant Registrar with headquarters at Rohtak to control and supervise the co-operative consumers' stores. His jurisdiction extends over the Rohtak, Gurgaon, Hissar and Mahendragarh districts. His main duty is to promote healthy growth and development of co-operative consumers' stores in the towns and rural areas. Both the central co-operative consumers' stores (organised under the centrally sponsored scheme) and the primary co-operative consumers' stores are supervised by him.<sup>2</sup>

Training and education occupy a pivotal position for the spread of the co-operative movement. For this purpose, there is a Junior Co-operative Training Institute at Rohtak which imparts training to the subordinate personnel of the co-operative department as well as to the Secretaries and the Managers of the primary co-operatives in the State.

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1. The post of Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Sonapat, was created during 1968-69.

2. The post of Assistant Registrar, Consumers' Stores, Rohtak, has been abolished since March 1, 1969, and the control of consumers' stores now rests with the Assistant Registrars working in the respective districts.

**Directorate, Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes**

This department is represented by the District Welfare Officer, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes who is assisted by four Tahsil Welfare Officers and male and female Social Workers with Lady Attendants working in the community centres. The main functions of this officer are to create public opinion against untouchability and to promote measures for the welfare of Scheduled Castes, Vimukat Jatis and other Backward Classes.

The male Social Workers hold adult education classes and deliver lectures against untouchability and also work for the general uplift of the Harijans. This work is intensively carried through the welfare community centres located at Sisana and Sanghi (Rohtak tahsil), Kundli and Saidpur (Sonapat tahsil), Khanpur Khurd, Salhawas and Jhajjar (Jhajjar tahsil), and Bichpuri (Gohana tahsil).

The female Social Workers hold sewing and *balwadi* classes and arrange *satsangs* in the community centres. They deliver lectures to Harijan women on child care, general cleanliness, etc. Besides, they visit Harijan *bastis* and create a public opinion among the residents that they should observe no distinction among themselves.

The Lady Attendants are trained Dais and provide maternity aid.

**Finance Department**

The district treasury is under the control of a Treasury Officer, assisted by three Assistant Treasury Officers (one each for the sub-treasuries at Sonapat, Gohana and Jhajjar). His threefold functions comprise (a) receipt of revenue including sale of stamps on behalf of Central and State Governments; (b) disbursement of bills of pay and allowances of Government employees, bills of contingencies, grants-in-aid, scholarships and pensions including military pensions; and (c) maintenance of accounts pertaining to (a) and (b).

The cash transactions of the treasury and sub-treasuries are conducted through the branches of the State Bank of India at Rohtak and Sonapat and the State Bank of Patiala at Gohana and Jhajjar.

The district treasury was previously under the charge of an Extra Assistant Commissioner (Revenue Department) who could not devote full attention to this job being entrusted with magisterial work in addition to treasury duties. Under the scheme of



Reorganisation of Treasuries, introduced in December 1955, the district treasury came under the administrative control of the Finance Department, and a whole-time Treasury Officer, belonging to the Panjab (now Haryana) Finance and Accounts Service cadre and well versed with the accounting procedure, was appointed for efficient working of the treasury and maintenance of its accounts.

### Public Relations Department

This department is represented by the District Public Relations Officer who maintains an information centre at the district headquarters. He is assisted by field publicity staff, a drama party, *bhajan* parties, a mobile cinema unit, radio mechanics, an Information Centre Assistant and miscellaneous office establishment. He keeps the State Government in direct liaison with the people by publicising its policies and programmes. He handles the distribution of Government publicity literature and press publicity for the coverage and publication of Government news. The radio sets installed in the rural areas under the community listening scheme are very helpful. He organises public meetings and rural conferences at which dramatic performances, cinema shows and exhibitions are presented. He conveys public reaction to Government policies to the district and the State authorities.

### Food and Supplies Department

This department is represented by the District Food and Supplies Controller, who is assisted by three Assistant Food and Supplies Officers. His duties include the procurement of food grains<sup>1</sup> and arranging their despatches to other States and deficit areas in the State. He looks after proper storage of the stocks of food grains kept in Provincial Reserve besides arranging for their distribution and the distribution of sugar, kerosene oil, cement, coal/coke, vegetable ghee, etc., at reasonable/control prices through fair price depots. These activities are regulated/carried out through various control/licensing orders issued by the Food and Supplies Department mainly under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

We can form a fair idea of the machinery for the distribution of foodgrains and other essential commodities from the large number

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1. Rohtak ranked third in the matter of procurement of wheat in 1967-68, the first two being Karnal and Hissar. The total wheat procured in this district was 8,826 metric tonnes.

of fair price shops functioning in the district.<sup>1</sup> Two check posts have been set up at Bahadurgarh (tahsil Jhajjar) and Bahalgarh (tahsil Sonapat) to intercept smuggling of food grains to other States.

### Planning Department

The Economic and Statistical Organisation under the administrative control of the Planning Department, Haryana, is represented in the district by the District Statistical Officer. His functions are centred in co-ordinating the statistical activities of the different departments at the district level. He collects, compiles and maintains statistics relating to various socio-economic aspects of the district, checks and scrutinizes the periodical progress reports prepared by the Block Development and Panchayat Officers and by various other District Officers and prepares district statistical abstract and municipal year book. He conducts various socio-economic surveys in the district assigned by the Economic and Statistical Adviser to Government, Haryana. He also renders technical guidance to the reporting agencies in collecting and compiling reliable statistics and to the other departments in conducting surveys and enquiries.

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1. The number of fair price shops, in March 1968, for the sale of food grains and sugar, coal depots, cement stockists and licensees under various control orders were: food grains licensees 698, rice dealers licensees 339, rice millers licensees 33, sugar dealers licensees 71, *gur* and *khandsar* dealers licensees 373, firewood licensees 100, brick kiln licensees 212, fair price shops 567, coal depots 90, cement stockists 94 and hydrogenated oil dealers 130 (wholesale 60, retail 70).



## CHAPTER XIV

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT

#### History of the Local Government

The Rohtak district has many large villages and if the size of the villages be any index to the existence of organised communal living, it may be assumed that some form of local government existed in the area from quite early times. This assumption would be in line with the freedom allowed by all organized territorial authorities to villages in the past to administer their own local affairs. This was done through the *panchayats* which they had evolved in the course of centuries. But our information about the evolution of local government in the district prior to the advent of the British rule is poor.

Some form of municipal administration was introduced in Rohtak in 1862 under the executive authority of Government. The first real step towards the introduction of municipal government was however taken when Rohtak, Jhajjar, Bahadurgarh, Gohana and Sonapat municipalities were constituted in 1885 under the Punjab Municipal Act, 1884.<sup>1</sup> In the subsequent year Beri and Kharkhauda were also constituted into municipalities. The Punjab Municipal Act, passed in 1891, provided a simple form of municipal administration in notified areas where it was inexpedient to constitute regular municipalities. Accordingly, notified area committees were formed at Maham, Sanghi, Kalanaur, Butana, Mundlana, Sampla, Mandothi, Badli and Guryani. Kharkhauda was also converted into a notified area committee under this Act. Amendments of this Act followed in 1896, 1900, 1905 and it was finally replaced by the Punjab Municipal Act III of 1911. All notified area committees except that of Maham were abolished in 1912.

A few years later, in 1921, the Punjab Small Towns Act, 1921, came into force. Under this Act, Maham was declared a small town committee in 1924 and Gohana in 1953. The Act was repealed by the Punjab Municipal (Second Amendment) Act, 1954 and it converted the small town committees of Maham and Gohana into class III municipal committees.

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1. It is said that Municipal Committee, Sonapat, was originally constituted in 1868 but no record is available

There are at present 7 municipal committees in the district. Municipal Committee, Rohtak is class I, Municipal Committees Beri, Jhajjar, Bahadurgarh and Sonapat are class II and Municipal Committees Maham and Gohana are class III.

Each municipal committee is divided into wards. The members of the committees are elected on the basis of adult franchise. A small reservation of seats is, however, made for the Scheduled Castes.

The main duties of the committees are to arrange for prevention and extinction of fire, supply water for drinking and other purposes, control dangerous or offensive trades, construct buildings and prepare layout of streets, maintain streets, roads, drains and sewerage, and to look after public health and scavenging of the town. Municipal committees also provide street lights and make arrangements for playgrounds, public parks, medical aid, public libraries, etc.

Octroi is the main source of income but other sources include tax on houses and lands, vehicles and animals, professions, toll tax on roads and ferries, water rates, show tax, licence fee, rent of municipal property, etc. The incidence of taxation per capita of population during 1966-67 was the highest in Rohtak town (Rs. 17), followed by Gohana (Rs. 15.97) and the lowest in Beri (Rs. 5.73).

#### **Rohtak Municipal Committee**

The Rohtak Municipal Committee was first constituted in 1885 under the Punjab Municipal Act, 1884. The boundaries, originally fixed at the time of its constitution, were revised subsequently in 1897, 1922 and 1952. In 1952, in addition to the civil station area, police lines, jail, waterworks, the new township, mud-huts and a few villages were included within the municipal limits. Two years later, in 1954, some villages were excluded from the municipal limits. The present area of the town is 4.50 square miles approximately. It is a class I municipal committee and is divided into 19 wards. It had 21 members in 1966.

**Water-supply.**—The piped water-supply system, installed in 1932, supplies canal water to the town after sedimentation, filtration and chlorination. In 1966, there were 3,823 private connections and 500 public stand posts.



**Drainage.**—Drainage in the town was first provided in 1932 when a disposal tank, outfall drains, main storm channel, intramural intercepting drains, culverts, etc., were made. Well water drawn by *charas* was used for flushing drains. Owing to the expansion of the town, the construction of the underground sewerage was undertaken in 1957 and has been completed in a part of the town.

**Street lighting.**—The town used to have kerosene lamps for street lighting before 1934. In that year electricity was supplied and most of the kerosene lamps were replaced by electric lights. Thereafter most parts of the town have been provided with electric points and 100 florescent tubes light up certain areas.

**Parks.**—Eight public parks and a garden are maintained by the municipal committee. Mansrover Park was laid out in 1953. It is provided with a cultural centre-cum-open air theatre and a swimming pool. A few children's parks are maintained in different localities.

**Conservancy and public health.**—The conservancy and public health is under the supervision of the Municipal Medical Officer. In January 1966, there were 4 Sanitary Inspectors, 10 Sanitary Jamadars, 4 Sanitary Beldars, 1 Sanitary Supervisor (Malaria) and 193 Sweepers and Bhistis in the conservancy department. Refuse is removed to refuse depots by tractors, trucks and rubbish carts. Long handled brooms, buckets, baskets and wheel barrows are provided to sweepers for collection of refuse and its removal to dust bins. The town is provided with public urinals and latrines.

A dispensary and two maternity and child welfare centres are located in different parts of the town. Family planning work is done at the maternity and child welfare centres.

**Library and reading rooms.**—The municipal committee is running a municipal library-cum-reading room. It also runs 3 reading rooms (one for children) in different parts of the town.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1963-64 to 1966-67, given in Table XXXVI of Appendix, shows that the expenditure is kept within the income which is more or less steady.

#### **Bahadurgarh Municipal Committee**

This municipal committee was first constituted in 1885 under the Punjab Municipal Act, 1884. It is a class II municipal committee and is divided into 12 wards. There were 13 members in 1966.

The town is provided with piped water-supply. In 1966, there were 689 private connections and 25 public stand posts. Surface drainage is provided in the town. A Sanitary Inspector, a Sanitary Jamadar and 30 sweepers attend to the conservancy work. The streets are well lighted and 203 electric points have been installed at various places.

The municipal committee is running Kamla Nehru Hospital which was constructed by it in 1961. It also runs a library and reading room. Gandhi Market was opened by the committee in 1958.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1963-64 to 1966-67, given in Table XXXVI of Appendix, does not show a progressive state of affairs.

#### **Beri Municipal Committee**

This municipal committee was constituted in 1886 under the Punjab Municipal Act, 1884. It is a class II municipal committee and is divided into 11 wards. There were 13 members in 1966.

The piped water-supply to the town was made in 1963, and in 1966 there were 497 private connections and 25 public stand posts. The town was electrified in 1959 and 125 electric lights have been provided for street lighting. It has a municipal park and a municipal library.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1963-64 to 1966-67, given in Table XXXVI of Appendix, shows that the municipal committee functions on a small budget.

#### **Jhajjar Municipal Committee**

The municipal committee was constituted in Jhajjar in 1885 under the Punjab Municipal Act, 1884. It is a class II municipal committee and is divided into 11 wards. There were 13 members in 1966.

The committee has established two public parks and one children's park. The piped water-supply to the town was made in 1964, and in 1966 there were 761 private connections and 25 public stand posts.

The streets are well lighted and there are 500 electric points installed in various parts of the town. A municipal library-cum-reading room is run by the committee.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1963-64 to 1966-67, given in Table XXXVI of Appendix, shows that the committee is functioning on an even budget.



**Sonepat Municipal Committee**

The committee appears to have been first constituted in 1868. It was reconstituted in 1885. It is a class II municipal committee and is divided into 11 wards. There were 13 members in 1966.

The piped water-supply based on percolation wells was provided in 1953-54. In 1966, there were 844 private connections and 400 public stand posts. About two-third of the streets are paved and most of these are provided with surface drains. The underground sewerage provided in the model town is being installed in other parts also. The streets are well lighted and 500 light points are provided. The conservancy staff include 1 Chief Sanitary Inspector, 1 Sanitary Inspector and 99 Sweepers. Refuse is removed to refuse depots in a tractor.

Three public parks and a library are maintained by the committee.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1963-64 to 1966-67, given in Table XXXVI of Appendix, shows a steady budget throughout.

**Maham Municipal Committee**

Constituted in 1891 as a notified area committee, it was declared a small town committee in 1924 under the provisions of the Punjab Small Towns Act, 1921. It was converted into a class III municipal committee when the Punjab Municipal (Second Amendment) Act, 1954, was passed. It is divided into 8 wards. It had 9 members in 1966.

The streets in the town are paved, well lighted, and surface drains have been provided on both sides. There are 3 municipal parks in the town. The scavenging services are manned by 15 sweepers and a Sanitary Jamadar and refuse is removed in carts and a tractor.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1963-64 to 1966-67, given in Table XXXVI of Appendix, shows a definite tendency to function on a bigger budget.

**Gohana Municipal Committee**

This municipal committee was constituted in 1885. Under the provisions of the Punjab Small Towns Act, 1921, it was declared a small town committee in 1953 and was later converted to class III municipal committee in 1955. In 1966, it was divided into 8 wards and had 9 members.

The committee is running a municipal library and a reading room. It has erected the Municipal Nehru Park and children's park. Electric street lights are provided and there are 320 points at various places in the town. The scavenging services are attended to by a Sanitary Inspector and 26 Sweepers and the refuse is removed in carts. The committee is running an Ayurvedic dispensary. The medical services are under a part-time Municipal Medical Officer.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1963-64 to 1966-67, given in Table XXXVI of Appendix, shows a desire to augment the resources and to work on an increased budget.

### Town Planning

Town planning work has been sponsored in the municipalities of Rohtak, Sonapat and Bahadurgarh. The control of the municipal committees is primarily of regulatory type and they control layouts and erection of buildings on privately owned lands. Land acquisition, layout and development of new areas is normally envisaged through Improvement Trusts under the Punjab Town Improvement Act, 1962. Improvement trusts have been set up at Rohtak and Sonapat. The State Government on its own, has also laid out model townships at Rohtak and Sonapat and an industrial area at Sonapat.

For the assistance of the local bodies and for other work of town planning, the State Government has established office of the Divisional Town Planner at Hissar under the Haryana Town Planning Organisation and the Rohtak district falls under his jurisdiction.

### Fire Service

The only fire brigade in the district is stationed at Rohtak. It is financed and administered by the Municipal Committee, Rohtak. The Fire Station Officer, in charge of the brigade, functions under the technical guidance of Fire Officer, Haryana, Chandigarh.

## PANCHAYATI RAJ

In the past, the village communities were organised on traditional lines under *Bhaichara panchayats*; they were not established under any written law. Lord Lawrence, the Collector of Delhi in 1844, admirably summed up this position:—

'In no part of the North-Western Provinces are the tenures so complete and well-recognized as here; no districts in which



the ancient village communities are in such excellent preservation, or where the practice of our (British) civil courts has done so little harm. They are admirably adapted to resist the evil effects of bad seasons, epidemics and other evils incidental to this country. Bound together by the ties of blood connection and, above all, common interest, like the bundle of sticks.....they are difficult to break. Drought may wither their crops, famine and disease may depopulate their houses, their fields may be deserted for a time, but when the storm blows over, if any survive, they are certain to return."

The villages were broken into main sub-divisions called *panas*, and minor sub-divisions called *thulas*. Over each *pana* and *thula* were headmen. A single *pana*, if large, had several headmen or several *thulas*; if small, it was under a single headman. But at least as important as the headmen, and forming with them the village council or *panchayat* were the *thuladars*. These were a body of men unrecognized by government, but exercising real power over the village. There was generally one representative for each family or a group of families among this body. There was no formal election, but a sort of tacit assent of his fellow-clansmen seemed to constitute a man's right to join the village council. There was always sure to be some person of a critical temperament in the council who perpetually demanded that the account of the stewardship of those in authority be submitted to the voice of the whole village, and this kept a wholesome check on their proceedings. The council or *panchayat* settled everything of common interest for the village, the cultivation of any common lands, the rents to be paid for these, the realization of grazing and hearth fees, the exemption of certain persons from payment, the building and repair of village rest houses, supervising the system of special watchmen (*thikar*), cleaning of the village tanks, etc. Certain other matters by general custom also needed their special assent, such as the breaking up of jungle land, the cutting and selling of the trees of the common land, the grant of a revenue-free holding by the village and the like. The accounts of the village funds were submitted, though not regularly for the sanction of the whole body of proprietors. Such were the village communities, a body often of heterogeneous composition but united by close ties, self-supporting, vigorous and strong.

By and by the *panchayats* lost much of their importance and significance through disuse. The real decay of these institutions,

however, set in during the early period of British rule. As a result of the highly centralized system of administration which the British introduced, the old quasi-democratic village organisation crumbled. However, the British Government did not take long to realize that as in the case of towns, local government must be resuscitated in some form or other if there was to be a revival of communal life. Accordingly, the work of reviving *panchayats* through legislation was taken up throughout India. The earliest legislation in the Punjab was the Punjab Panchayat Act, 1912, which was followed by the Act of 1921. These enactments sought restoration of some sort of traditional authority to the *panchayats* where such authority existed and reviving it in other villages where it did not exist. The *panchayats* were given administrative functions and powers and judicial powers, both criminal and civil. The Punjab Village Panchayat Act, 1939, consolidated and extended the law relating to *panchayats* and gave them some powers of taxation.

The necessity of re-establishing village *panchayats* throughout the country was fully recognized after Independence and it was laid down in the Constitution as one of the directive principles of State policy. In pursuance of this, the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952 (Punjab Act IV of 1953) was passed. Under this Act the entire rural population of the district was covered by the *panchayats*.

The final step towards the implementation of Panchayati Raj was the enactment of the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961. Under the Act, Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishad were constituted at block and district level respectively. In short, the Panchayati Raj is a three-storeyed edifice having the *panchayat* at village level, Panchayat Samiti at block level and Zila Parishad at district level.

### *Panchayats*

The *Panchayat* is the basic unit of Panchayati Raj. Under the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, as amended up to 31st August, 1960, 712 *panchayats* existed in 1966. The total membership in these *panchayats* was 4,932 which included 829 Harijan *panches* and *sarpanches* and 711 women *panches* and *sarpanches*.

Every person, male or female, who is entered as a voter on the electoral roll of the State Legislative Assembly is a member of the *gram sabha* and it is these members who elect the *sarpanch* and *panches* from amongst themselves. The number of *panches* per



*panchayat* shall not be less than 4 or more than 8, the exact number depending on the population of the *sabha* area.

If no woman is elected as a *panch* of any *sabha* on the strength of her votes, the woman candidate securing the highest number of votes amongst the women candidates in that election is co-opted by the *panchayat* as a *panch* of that *sabha* and where no such woman candidate is available, the *panchayat* co-opts as a *panch* a woman member of the *sabha* who is qualified to be elected as a *panch*.

Every *panchayat* has one *panch* belonging to the Scheduled Castes if their population is 5 per cent or more of the population of the *sabha* area, provided that every *panchayat* with seven or more *panches* shall have two *panches* who are members of Scheduled Castes if the population of the Scheduled Castes is 10 per cent or more of the total population. If the required number of Scheduled Caste *panches* are not elected on the strength of their votes, then the Scheduled Caste candidate or candidates, as the case may be, securing the highest number of votes from amongst themselves are deemed to have been elected as the last *panch* or the last two *panches*. In case the requisite number of Scheduled Caste *panches* are not elected in the aforesaid manner, then the *panchayat* itself makes up the deficiency by nominating a duly qualified person or persons of such castes. Should, for any reason, the requisite number of Scheduled Caste *panches* not be elected or co-opted in the above manner, Government has the authority to make good the deficiency by nomination.

**Income of *panchayats*.**—The *panchayats* have been authorised to levy taxes, duties and fees. Apart from miscellaneous items, the main sources of income are grants from government, house tax, income from *shamlat* land, voluntary contributions, 10 per cent of the land revenue of the *panchayat* area, fees and fines. The income of the *panchayats* during 1964-65 to 1966-67 given in Table XXXVII of Appendix, shows that their tax efforts were not very substantive and much of their income was from village common lands and grant from Government or local and other bodies.

**Judicial functions.**—The *panchayats* have been given powers to try certain minor offences like petty thefts, hurt, affray, commission of public nuisance, etc., and are also empowered to impose fines. They are not bound by the provisions of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, and

lawyers are not permitted to appear in the proceedings before a *panchayat*. In their judicial functions, the *panchayats* are under the control of the Chief Judicial Magistrate for criminal cases, who can hear appeals from their orders, and transfer cases from one *panchayat* to another. The *panchayats* have also been given powers for trying civil and revenue judicial cases within certain pecuniary limits. In respect of these cases, they are under the control of the District Judge and the Collector respectively.

The judicial (criminal, civil and revenue) work done by the *panchayats* during 1956-57 to 1965-66, given in Table XXXVII of Appendix, shows that the *panchayats* were reasonably quick in the disposal of both civil and criminal cases.

**Public utility work.**—The functions of the *panchayats* cover all important matters relating to municipal and development works in villages and also encouragement of industry and agriculture for improving the economic condition of their community. The public utility work done by the *panchayats* during 1956-57 to 1965-66, given in Table XXXIX of Appendix, shows that while opening of waste lands required the attention of the *panchayats* in the earlier year, the construction of wells has been undertaken steadily throughout.

#### Panchayat Samitis

The entire district has been divided into 15 blocks, each block having a Panchayat Samiti. It consists of 19 primary members; 16 members elected by *panches* and *sarpanches*; 2 members elected by co-operative societies, and 1 member elected by market committees. Every M.L.A. representing the constituency of which the block forms part, works on the Panchayat Samiti as an associate member. Two women members and 4 members belonging to the Scheduled Castes, if not elected otherwise, are co-opted to the Panchayat Samiti. The Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) and Block Development and Panchayat Officer function as *ex officio* members. The *ex officio* and associate members do not have the right to vote.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Panchayat Samiti are elected by the primary and co-opted members from amongst themselves and their term of office is 5 years. The Block Development and Panchayat Officer is the Executive Officer of the Panchayat Samiti.

The Panchayat Samiti is the most important structure in Panchayati Raj. Most of the work relating to development of villages is



assigned to it. The Government entrusts to the Panchayat Samiti responsibility for various matters in the field of agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries, health and rural sanitation, communications, social education, co-operation and a number of other miscellaneous subjects. It is an agent of the Government for the formulation and execution of the community development programme as well as the disbursement of loans under these programmes.

The Panchayat Samiti has a vital role to play in building up a sound financial structure for Panchayati Raj. Every Panchayat Samiti has a 'Samiti Fund' which consists of the following items:—

- (1) the apportionment made to it by the Government out of the balance of the district fund standing to the credit of the District Board concerned,
- (2) local rate allotted to Panchayat Samiti,
- (3) proceeds of all taxes, cesses and fees,
- (4) funds allotted to Panchayat Samiti and income arising from all sources placed at its disposal,
- (5) rents and profits accruing from property vested in it or managed by the Panchayat Samiti,
- (6) all sums contributed to the fund by the Central Government or State Government or any local authority including the *gram panchayat* or any private person,
- (7) all sums received by the Panchayat Samiti in the discharge of functions exercised by it,
- (8) all sums paid by Government to Panchayat Samiti to meet expenses for the performance of agency functions,
- (9) grants made by Government for the implementation of community development programme, and
- (10) proceeds of all sources of income which the Government may place at the disposal of the Panchayat Samiti. Besides, the Panchayat Samiti can, with the permission of the Zila Parishad, impose any tax which the State Legislature has power to impose.

#### **Zila Parishad**

The rural area of the district which was previously under the

District Board came under the administration of the Zila Parishad in March 1962. In 1871, the Lieutenant Governor was empowered to appoint committees in each district to assist him in determining the manner in which the local rate in rural areas was to be applied. With the setting up of the District Board in each district, 4 local boards, one in each talsil, were also established in 1885; these were subsequently abolished in 1902. The District Board consisted of 36 members, 12 appointed and 24 delegated or nominated from local boards. Under notification No. 106, dated June 10, 1901, the number was increased to 45 members; 30 elected members, one from each electoral circle and 15 nominated. Of nominated members, 7 were Government Officers and the remaining 8 were appointed by the Government. The Deputy Commissioner, Rohtak, was the official chairman of the District Board and continued as such till 1936, when the Board elected its first non-official chairman. The Board so constituted continued to function up to June 16, 1954, when it was superseded under the Punjab District Boards (Temporary Constitution) Act, 1954, and was re-constituted with only official members. According to the provision of this Act, the administration of the District Board passed on to the Deputy Commissioner in his capacity as the chairman of the District Board and the official members were to assist him.

With the enactment of the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961, the District Board was replaced by the newly constituted Zila Parishad in March 1962. The Zila Parishad consists of 2 members elected by each Panchayat Samiti, the chairman of every Panchayat Samiti, the Deputy Commissioner, every M.P. and M.L.A. of the district and co-opted members. The Zila Parishad must have at least 2 women members and five members belonging to Scheduled Castes.

The Zila Parishad elects its Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The Secretary is appointed by the Government.

**Duties.**—The Zila Parishad advises, supervises and co-ordinates the plans prepared by the Panchayat Samitis, examines and approves their budget, advises the Government about *panchayats* and Panchayat Samitis, and keeps a watch over the agricultural production and construction works.

**Income.**—The income of the Zila Parishad accrues from the funds allotted to it by the Central Government or the State Government,



grants from all-India bodies and institutions for the development of cottage, village and small scale industries, local rate, income from endowments and contributions levied on Panchayat Samitis.

The income and expenditure of the Zila Parishad during 1962-63 to 1965-66, given below, shows that except in 1963-64, it has produced surplus budgets by a good margin of income over expenditure;

year	Income	Expenditure
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1962-63	12,38,483	7,80,818
1963-64	16,02,406	20,66,984
1964-65	24,16,410	14,92,407
1965-66	18,59,281	15,35,839

## CHAPTER XV

### EDUCATION AND CULTURE

As in other districts of the State, Rohtak had a number of indigenous schools. According to Leitner the number of these schools and of their respective scholars on October 30, 1882, was as follows<sup>1</sup>:-

Type of schools	Number of schools	Number of scholars	Subjects taught
Maktabas and Madrassas	45	452	Koran
Sanskrit and Nagri Schools	33	351	Sanskrit
Lande and Mahajani Schools	21	381	Mahajani
Total	99	1,184	

There were only 28 anglo-vernacular schools in addition to these 99 indigenous schools. These comprised 1 high school, 2 anglo-vernacular middle schools, 5 vernacular middle schools and 20 primary schools. Of the 20 primary schools, only one was meant for girls. The state of education prevailing in the district at the time is indicated in the following extract :-

"In a purely agricultural district the state of education would be expected to be backward, and such is the case in Rohtak....English is taught at Rohtak and Jhajjar, and the first Jai who thoroughly mastered English.—Jumna Das of Bohar—was made a District Inspector of Schools. The average number of scholars is about 2,700; for the size of the villages and density of the population, the district is perhaps the least advanced of any in the Panjab. Our system is possibly not suited to an agricultural people; if a little simple reading were taught with cyphering in the native method, and a knowledge of accounts and the *patwaris'* papers, they would be more ready to send their

1. G.W. Leitner, *History of Indigenous Education in the Panjab, since Annexation and in 1882*, Part III, p.1.



children to acquire some "scholaring". The Brahmans of Ahmadpur Majra have some local reputation as well-educated *pundits*. The people collect eagerly to hear passages of the *Ramayana* or *Mahabharata* declaimed at the village rest-house, and reward the reciter for his performance liberally; the women also gather on these occasions sitting by themselves in a separate corner. A number of songs are well-known to the people, and none better than that of "Sarwan." This young lady lived in Gangana in the Gohana *taluk*, which is commonly called *Sarwan ka Gangana* after her: the song is a common one of the dancing-girls of North India. The people are very far from wanting in natural intelligence and shrewdness; and nearly any cultivator can draw a map of his fields in the dust, if he is encouraged a little in a kindly way."<sup>1</sup>

The district did not make much headway and by 1910 it had still only one high school though the number of middle schools had risen to 8 and of primary schools for boys and girls to 108.

The introduction of the Punjab Primary Education Act, 1919, which introduced compulsion, gave a fillip to primary education which led to an increase in the number of middle and high schools also. The number of primary schools rose to 271, 222 for boys and 49 for girls. Many primary schools were raised to the middle and many middle schools to the high standard. The total number of middle schools rose to 35, 34 for boys and 1 for girls and that of high schools for boys to 5.

The non-availability of trained teachers was a bottle-neck in the progress of education. To overcome it, a normal school was attached to Government School for Boys, Rohtak. It started with 163 scholars. The Government College, Rohtak, with intermediate classes was established in May 1927.

The military officers and other ranks who returned to their home towns after retrenchment urged their local community to send their wards to schools. The result was encouraging and in 1940 there were 164 primary, 112 lower middle, 36 middle and 12 high schools for boys, in addition to 8 primary, 3 middle and 1 high schools for girls. The All India Jat Heroes' Memorial College was established in Rohtak in 1944 and the Vaish College, Rohtak, in 1947. The post-Independence years have witnessed a pressing demand for extension of educational facilities

1. *Rohtak District Gazetteer*, 1883-84, pp. 54-55.

to meet the demands of a new social order. In 1965-66, the district could in no way be considered backward since there were 9 colleges, 20 higher secondary and 97 high schools, 149 middle schools, 657 primary schools, besides institutions imparting professional education in different fields.

Prior to the re-organization of the educational set-up in 1963, the boys and girls schools up to middle standard were controlled by the District Inspector and District Inspectress of Schools who were assisted by the Assistant District Inspectors/Inspectresses for control of the primary schools. The high and higher secondary schools were controlled by the Divisional Inspector and Divisional Inspectress of Schools located at Ambala. With the re-organisation of the educational set-up, the District Education Officer, Rohtak, became responsible for the entire school education in the district.

#### **Education of Women**

The pace of the education of women has been very slow and only 1 per cent of the female population was reported to be literate in 1901. There were no schools for the girls and the individual effort, if any, have left no trace behind except the Kanya Gurukul at Khanpur established near about 1939. This institution still flourishes and caters to the needs of the female population of rural areas. In 1930, a District Advisory Committee was constituted for the improvement of the education of women. On its recommendation although Government Middle School for Girls, Rohtak, was raised to high school in 1933 and a normal school was attached to it, yet women's education did not make much headway. There were only 2 high schools for girls in the district in 1950. Thereafter the changing social order and the efforts of Sanatan Dharma and Arya Samaj among other voluntary organisations brought about much progress in the sphere of women's education. In 1966, there were 6 higher secondary schools, 17 high schools and 31 middle schools for girls. To make good the deficiency in the number of schools for girls, all primary schools for boys were thrown open to girls. The middle, high and higher secondary schools at places having no separate schools for girls also became co-educational.

#### **Education of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes**

Before 1947, no special attention was paid to the spread of education among the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes. These people were too poor to afford the benefits of education and too backward



to be alive to its need. There was a tendency to employ young children on odd jobs to supplement the family income. In the post-Independence years Government has been vigorously directing its policy towards raising the general level of literacy among these neglected people. In deference to the special provisions laid down in the Constitution, a number of facilities were extended by reserving seats in professional and technical institutions, exempting Harijans and others from tuition fees, reimbursing the examination fees and by giving financial assistance to deserving students.

### **Educational set-up**

Since 1963 the District Education Officer, Rohtak, has been responsible for the administration of all primary, middle, high and higher secondary schools. He is assisted by 3 Deputy Education Officers. Either the District Education Officer or one of the Deputy Education Officers has to be a woman who has to be consulted in all matters relating to women teachers.

The District Education Officer is assisted by 16 Block Education Officers whose areas of operation are normally coterminous with the development blocks. There may, however, be more than one Block Education Officer in a block depending upon the number of primary schools. This explains why there are two Block Education Officers each in Sonapat and Jhajjar blocks and one each in the other blocks.

Besides, an Assistant Education Officer for Physical Education advises the District Education Officer in matters relating to National Fitness Corps and looks after its promotion in primary and middle schools.

### **General Education**

The District Board and municipal committees have contributed to the spread of education in the district according to their resources and educational needs of the area, particularly in the field of elementary education which was primarily their responsibility.

The number of pre-primary, primary, middle and high schools maintained by the District Board and the municipal committees prior to the provincialisation of schools is given below. The District Board (now Zila Parishad) and the various municipal committees were expected

to pay their contribution to the Government towards the provincialised schools.

	Pre-primary schools		Primary schools		Middle schools		High schools	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
District Board, Rohtak	—	—	584	101	70	10	34	—
Municipal Committee, Rohtak	—	—	9	1	—	—	—	—
Municipal Committee, Beri	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
Municipal Committee, Bahadurgarh	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Municipal Committee, Gohana	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Municipal Committee, Sonapat	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—
Municipal Committee, Maham	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Municipal Committee, Jhajjar	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
Total	3	3	600	107	72	10	34	—

The position in respect of various grades of schools as well as colleges imparting higher education is discussed below:

**Pre-primary schools.**—Pre-primary education in the district is not organized. However, the public is becoming more and more conscious of its value for little children and therefore pre-primary education has gained a tempo. Some retired teachers, educationists and voluntary organizations have started a few nursery schools at Rohtak, Sonapat and Jhajjar among other urban areas.

**Primary and basic schools.**—The course of primary education covers a period of five years. Since 1961 primary education has been made compulsory; starting with age group 6-7 in 1961, extended to one higher class in each subsequent year so that in 1965 the age group 10-11 was also covered by it. The education at the primary stage is imparted free and all such schools are mixed. Almost every *panchayat* area has a primary school. Teachers are provided at the pupil-teacher ratio of 50:1. Single teacher schools are very few and function only in villages/habitations with a small population because in such schools the number of students is also small. Most of the teachers are either basic-trained or have been oriented to the basic



pattern. Under the basic system of education which has been accepted as the pattern of education, the primary schools are reoriented to five-grade basic schools.

The medium of instruction is Hindi. The teaching of Hindi as the first language and as medium of instruction, begins from class I and Panjabi as the second language is introduced from class IV. There is, however, an option that a parent can declare Panjabi as the mother tongue of his child and if the number of such children comes to 10 or more in a class, or 40 or more in a school at the primary stage, provision for the teaching of Panjabi as the first language and medium of instruction is made for such a group of children.<sup>1</sup>

In 1966, there were 637 Government primary schools besides 20 privately managed schools.

**Middle schools.**—Originally it was proposed to introduce compulsion in the age group 6—14 but due to paucity of funds it is not possible to do so during the next 10 to 15 years. Anyhow the introduction of free and compulsory primary education in Government schools is having its impact on the enrolment in the middle stage. Primary schools are upgraded to middle schools as their enrolment increases. Ordinarily one teacher is appointed for every 30 scholars in middle schools.

In 1966, there were 146 Government middle schools besides 3 privately managed middle schools.

**Secondary schools.**—For a majority of students secondary education has to be of terminal character. Only in the case of a limited number who proceed to higher education, secondary education provides a preparatory stage. This postulates that secondary schools should offer a variety of courses calculated to meet the requirements of those who wish to earn their livelihood after some specific training besides preparing a broad base for admission to higher courses of study leading to professional training at a higher level.

In pursuance of this aim, many high schools have been converted to the higher secondary pattern. Conversion involves complex problems involving funds for additional buildings and equipment and adequate trained personnel. Progress has, therefore, been slow. In 1966, there

1. The provision also exists at the secondary stage if students opting Panjabi as mother tongue are 1/3rd of the total number of students in a school.

were 15 Government and 5 privately managed higher secondary schools. Besides, there were 67 Government and 30 privately managed high schools.

The desire of Government to give special encouragement to the education of girls is evident in the scale of fees charged from their parents. Secondary education is free for all those whose family income is less than Rs. 1,000 per annum in the case of boys and less than Rs. 3,000 per annum in the case of girls. Boys whose family income is between Rs. 1,000 and 3,000 are charged fees at half the rates. Boys whose family income exceeds Rs. 3,000 per annum are charged fees at full rates but the girls in this category are charged fees at half the rates.

No tuition fee is charged from the children of serving defence personnel or of defence personnel who have been killed or disabled during the last national emergency.

**Higher Education.**—There are 9 colleges; 3 run by Government, 1 by the Panjab University and 5 by privately managed bodies.

**Government College, Rohtak.**—It is the premier educational institution of the Haryana State. It came into existence in May 1927, when it was established in the building which formerly housed the Government normal school. To begin with it was an intermediate college but was raised to the degree standard in 1941. The post-graduate classes were started in 1957.

The college is affiliated to the Panjab University for Pre-University (Arts and Science), Pre-Engineering, Pre-Medical, B.A. and B.Sc. The college had 1,002 students including 75 girls on its roll in 1966. It was affiliated for M.A. (Hindi, Political Science and Economics) but in 1966, the Panjab University opened a Regional Centre at Rohtak and post-graduate classes were shifted to this Centre. The Principal of the college is the Director of the Centre.

The college has its own library containing about 12,000 books and a zoological museum.

Lying in a lowland area, the college building suffered heavily during the floods of September 1933 and September 1960. In October 1960, the college was shifted to its building near the Model Town.



**Government College for Women, Rohtak.**—This college was started in 1959 in the hostel building of the Government college for boys. With the shifting of the latter to its new building, the Government college for women occupied the main building.

The college is affiliated to the Panjab University for Pre-University (Arts and Science), Pre-Medical and B.A. It had 686 girls on its roll in 1966.

**Panjab University Evening College, Rohtak<sup>1</sup>.**—The Panjab University started an evening college in 1962 for the benefit of working persons. It was located in the building of Government College, Rohtak. It prepares students for Pre-University (Arts) and B.A. In 1966, there were 368 students including 8 girls on its roll.

**All India Jat Heroes' Memorial College, Rohtak.**—This institution was established in 1944 by raising the All India Jat Heroes' Memorial Anglo-Sanskrit High School, Rohtak, to the status of a degree college. The college started training classes but these classes were separated from the college, and a teachers' training college, namely, Chhotu Ram College of Education, Rohtak, was established in 1957.

The college is being run by the Jat Education Society which is a registered body. It is affiliated to the Panjab University for Pre-University (Arts, Science and Agriculture), Pre-Medical, Pre-Engineering, B.A. and B.Sc. It had a library having 6,600 books. It had 1,000 students including 15 girls on its roll in 1966.

**Vaish College, Rohtak.**—This college was started in 1946 by raising Vaish High School, Rohtak, to the status of a college. It is run by the Vaish Education Society, Rohtak.

The college is affiliated to the Panjab University for Pre-University (Arts and Science), Pre-Engineering, Pre-Medical, B.A., B.Sc. and B.Com. There were 1,273 students (boys) on its roll in 1966.

**Chhotu Ram Arya College, Sonapat.**—In 1951, Chhotu Ram Zamindara High School, Sonapat, was raised to the status of a degree college and named Chhotu Ram Arya College. The college is affiliated to the Panjab University for Pre-University (Arts and Science), Pre-Engineering, B.A., B. Com. and B.Sc. It has spacious playgrounds, and a well equipped library having more than 3,000 books. There were 994 students including 24 girls on its roll in 1966.

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1. A Government evening college was started in July 1967, at Bahadurgarh.

**Hindu College, Sonapat.**—This college was established on June 2, 1956. It is affiliated to the Panjab University for Pre-University (Arts and Science), Pre-Engineering, Pre-Medical, B.A., B.Sc., and M.A. (English and Mathematics). The total number of students on its roll in 1966 was 2,282 including 302 girls. It has a library containing 7,950 books and spacious playgrounds covering an area of more than 8 acres.

**Nehru College, Jhajjar.**—This college is a fine example of self-help by a rural community. This institution has been raised by the poor tillers of the soil, petty shopkeepers, landlords, ex-servicemen and landless labourers of this backward area who have contributed to it in the shape of land, cash and voluntary labour. It is spread over an area of 175 *kanals*. Staff quarters have been provided in the college campus.

This college, started in 1959, was run by Jhajjar Education Society till 1963 when Government took it over. It is affiliated to the Panjab University for Pre-University (Arts and Science), Pre-Medical, Pre-Engineering, B.A. and B.Sc. There were 623 students including 24 girls on its roll in 1966.

**Haryana War Heroes' Memorial College, Gohana.**—In order to meet the needs of higher education of Gohana tahsil, Haryana Education Society was formed. It started Haryana War Heroes' Memorial College at Gohana in April 1967. The college is affiliated to the Panjab University for Pre-University (Arts) and B.A.

## PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

With rapid strides in the field of science and technology, it is but natural that education should become more and more science based. The economic developments have also had their impact on the educational requirements in this direction. A number of technical and professional institutes were started in the district in response to these requirements.

### Medical Education

**Medical College, Rohtak.**—This college was started by the Government in June 1960. It functioned at Patiala as a guest institution of the Government Medical College, Patiala, till January 25, 1963, when its staff and students were shifted to Rohtak.



The College has its own enclave occupying an area of 240 acres and is situated just on the outskirts of the city on the Delhi-Rohtak road. Its buildings include a modern hospital, administrative block, hostels for boys, girls and nurses, residential quarters for the staff and extensive playgrounds. The main college building is a five-storied structure.

The college is affiliated to the Panjab University for M.B.B.S., Ph.D. (Anatomy), M.D. (Physiology, Pharmacology, Pathology and Medicine) and M.S. (Anatomy, Surgery and Ophthalmology). Besides, courses in general nursing, sanitary inspectors and pharmacists are run by the institute. Admission to M.B.B.S. is limited to 125.

The following institutions are attached to the College for imparting clinical instruction to the students in various subjects :—

- (1) Medical College Hospital, Rohtak.
- (2) Civil Hospital, Rohtak.
- (3) Women Hospital, Rohtak.
- (4) Tuberculosis Clinic, Rohtak.

The Department of Social and Preventive Medicines has established its rural training centres at Dighal where students are trained specifically for services in rural areas.

**Shri Mastnath Ayurvedic Degree College, Ashtal Bohar.**—The College was started in November 1958. The institution has a palatial building. One eye and general hospital with 250 beds is attached to the college for clinical work.

The college is affiliated to the Punjab State Faculty of Ayurvedic and Unani System of Medicines, Amritsar, for the degree of Ayurvedacharya, Graduate of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery. In 1966-67, there were 160 students including one girl on its roll.

#### Teachers' Training

In 1966, the following institutes admitted students for degree or diploma courses in teachers' training :—

Name of the Institute	Courses of study	Period of training
1. Chhotu Ram College of Education, Rohtak	(i) B.Ed.	1 year
	(ii) L.T.C.	1 year
	(iii) J.B.T.	2 years
2. Government Janta College, Dujana	J.B.T.	2 years



Medical College, Rohatuk



*Shri Manmuth Ayurvedic Degree College, Asthal Bohat*



Name of the institute	Course of study	Period of training
3. Government Girls Middle School, Ismaila	J.B.T.	2 years
4. Government Girls High School, Jhajjar	Do	Do
5. Government Higher Secondary School, Murthal	Do	Do
6. Government Girls J.B.T. Centre, Bahadurgarh	Do	Do
7. Janta Higher Secondary School, Butana	Do	Do
8. Haryana Public High School, Gohana	Do	Do
9. Kanya Gurukul Higher Secondary School, Khanpur Kalan	Do	Do
10. G.B.C. High School, Rohtak	Do	Do
11. Arya National High School, Mohana	Do	Do
12. S.D. Girls High School, Rohtak	Do	Do
13. D.A.V. High School, Hassangarh	Do	Do
14. Janta Girls High School, Nahra	Do	Do

**Chhotu Ram College of Education, Rohtak.**—This institute was a part of All India Jat Heroes' Memorial College, Rohtak, till 1957 when the training department of the college was separated, giving birth to Chhotu Ram College of Education. The College is affiliated to the Panjab University for B.Ed. (Bachelor of Education). Besides, it also prepares students for L.T.C. (Language Teachers Certificate) and J.B.T. (Junior Basic Training), courses of the Education Department, Haryana. In 1966, there were 380 students on its roll.

**Government Janta College, Dujana.**—To impart training in rural leadership to village level workers, secretaries of *gram panchayats* and other village leaders, a Janta College was established at Chandigarh in 1954. The institution was later shifted to Dujana. This was the only institute of its kind in the State and was run on the lines of Folk High Schools in Denmark. In 1964, the leadership class was closed and it was converted into a full-fledged J.B.T. institution.



**Engineering and Technical Education**

**Government Polytechnic, Jhajjar.**—The Government Polytechnic was started at Jhajjar in 1961. The institute prepared students for Diploma in Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. In 1966, there were 299 students on its roll.

Besides the Government Polytechnic, there are the following institutes which provide for diploma/certificate courses in various trades/crafts functioning in the district :—

Name of the Institute	Trades/Crafts
C.R. Polytechnic, Rohtak	Civil Engineering
Vaish Technical Institute, Rohtak	Civil Engineering
Government Industrial Training Institute, Rohtak	(i) Blacksmith, Carpenter, Motor Mechanic, Moulder and Welder
	(ii) Fitter, Wireman, Turner and Building Construction
	(iii) Draftsman (Mechanical and Civil), Electrician, Electroplator, Radio Mechanic and Mechanic Tractor
	(iv) Cutting and Tailoring and Stenography (English and Hindi)
Government Industrial Training Institute, Sonapat	(i) Blacksmith, Carpenter, Diesel Mechanic, Moulder, Welder and Motor Mechanic
	(ii) Stenography (English and Hindi)
	(iii) Fitter, Machinist and Turner
	(iv) Draftsman Mechanical, Electrician and Wireless Operator
Government Institute of Surgical Instruments Technology, Sonapat	(i) Surgical Instruments Technology
	(ii) Machine Tools and Die Sinking Technology

Name of the Institute	Trades/Crafts
Government Industrial School for Boys, Rohtak	(i) Cutting and Tailoring (ii) Hand Weaving of <i>Nwar</i> , Tape, Durrie and Carpets (iii) Knitting with Hand and Machines (iv) Bleaching, Dyeing and Calico Printing (v) Hand Weaving of Fancy and Furnishing Fabrics
Industrial Training Centre, Jhajjar <sup>1</sup>	Handloom Weaving
Government Industrial School for Girls, Rohtak	(i) Tailoring and Cutting, Hand Embroidery and Machine Embroidery (ii) Teachers' Training Course
Government Industrial School for Girls, Bahadurgarh	Tailoring and Cutting
Government Industrial School for Girls, Jhajjar	Tailoring and Cutting or Hand Embroidery and Machine Embroidery
Samaj Kalyan Sabha Industrial School for Girls, Gohana	Do
Janta Sudhar Industrial School for Girls, Rohtak	Do
Government Industrial School for Girls, Sonapat	Do
Government Industrial Training Institute, Hassangarh	(i) Blacksmith, Carpenter and Motor Mechanic (ii) Fitter, Turner and Welder (iii) Electrician

1. It has since been shifted to Pindri (Karnal district).



### Education of the Handicapped

**Training Centre for Adult Blind, Sonapat<sup>1</sup>.**—Realising the educational-cum-vocational needs of the blind, the State Government set up a training centre for men between the age of 18 and 40 at Panipat in July 1962. It was shifted to Sonapat in 1964. The object of this Centre is to impart education and training to blind men in order to make them economically productive members of society and to enable them to lead a normal life in society. There were 59 trainees on its roll in December 1967.

### Gurukul Type of Education

There are five *gurukuls* functioning in the district, four for boys (at Ashrafpur Matindu, Jhajjar, Singhpura Sunderpur, and Bhainswal Kalan) and one for girls (at Khanpur Kalan). The main purpose of these institutions founded on the pattern of education in ancient India, is to teach Sanskrit and Hindi. Their aim is to teach the Vedas and other Shruti lore. They also give physical education according to the ancient accepted ideas. But, as elsewhere in the country, there is a tendency to convert these *gurukuls* into the modern type of institutions.

The *gurukul* at Jhajjar, started in 1915, is situated 2 miles away from the town. A *gaushala* and a pharmacy for Ayurvedic medicines are also run by it. The *gurukul* at Bhainswal Kalan, which functions as a branch of Gurukul Kangri (Hardwar), was founded by Phool Singh, a disciple of Swami Brahma Nand. He also established a *gurukul* at Khanpur Kalan for girls, which now functions as an important rural institution. Apart from preparing girls for higher secondary examination of the Panjab University and running J.B.T. classes, it has, since 1967, been upgraded as Bhagat Phool Singh Memorial College.

**Social Education.**—An essential requirement of adult suffrage is the eradication of illiteracy from the country. Due to financial limitations it has not been possible to cope with this stupendous programme in a big way. However, efforts are being made to co-ordinate the programmes of voluntary organisations with efforts at the Government level. The Circle Social Education Officer, Rohtak, is in charge of social education in the district. He has organised centres for men and women, each of which is under the supervision of a Social

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<sup>1</sup> There was another institution for the blind located at Rohtak run by the Rotary Club. It was closed in 1965.

Education Worker. The following social education centres were functioning in 1966 :—

- (1) Social Education Centre for Men, Rohtak
- (2) Social Education Centre for Men, Sonapat
- (3) Social Education Centre for Men, Jhajjar
- (4) Social Education Centre for Women, Gohana
- (5) Municipal Social Education Centre for Women, Rohtak
- (6) Social and Adult Education Centre for Women, Samaj Kalyan Sabha, Gohana
- (7) Social Education Centre for Men, Organo Chemical Industries, Sonapat
- (8) Social Education Centre for Men, District Jail, Rohtak

These centres in addition to imparting elementary knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic, maintain libraries, arrange lectures on cleanliness, sanitation and personal hygiene and provide other recreational and cultural activities.

#### National Fitness Corps

In order to develop character and discipline and to make the children physically fit, the late 'General' J.K. Bhonsle started the National Discipline Scheme. This scheme created a new awakening in the field of physical education culminating in the formulation of the National Fitness Corps Programme which is comprehensive in its scope of physical education. The good points of all schemes relating to physical education were incorporated in the scheme of National Fitness Corps and an integrated syllabus was formed. The programme includes exercise tables, drill and marching, lezium, gymnastics and folk-dances, major and minor games and relays, track and field events, tests and hiking, combatives and national ideals and good citizenship, practical projects and community singing of the National Anthem and emotional and national integration songs. This programme was introduced in 1965.

In the Rohtak district, the scheme is implemented under the general supervision of the District Education Officer who is assisted by an Assistant Education Officer. Physical training is being reoriented to this new programme. One Instructor each has



been provided in all high and higher secondary schools whereas it is proposed that teachers in middle and primary schools should be given training and made in charge of the programme.

### National Cadet Corps

National Cadet Corps (N.C.C.) was introduced in the educational programme in 1948 to develop the qualities of leadership, unity and discipline. Later in July 1963, after the Chinese aggression, it was made compulsory for all able-bodied undergraduate boy students at college level. The N.C.C. training is imparted regularly during academic sessions and through outdoor camps. From 1968 two other programmes namely National Service Corps and National Sports Organization, have been introduced as alternatives to N.C.C.

N.C.C. is organized in the district through N.C.C. Group Headquarters, Rohtak and N.C.C. Group Headquarters, Ambala. They have under their jurisdiction six N. C. C. units covering cadets of Senior Division in colleges and Junior Division in schools as given below:

- 1 Haryana Bn. N.C.C., Rohtak
- 4 Haryana Bn. N.C.C., Rohtak
- 2 Haryana Girls Bn. N.C.C., Rohtak
- 1 Haryana Medical Co. N.C.C., Rohtak
- 5 Haryana Bn. N.C.C., Gurgaon
- 9 Haryana Bn. N.C.C., Sonapat

### Sports

Sports activities in the district include *panchayat* tournaments at the block and district levels, school tournaments at the zone and district levels, college tournaments at the University zone level, and open tournaments at the district and State level.

School tournaments are organized by the District Sports Tournaments Committee which consists of elected members from various schools with District Education Officer as its *ex officio* chairman. The committee organizes tournaments at the zone and district level for high and higher secondary schools. The District Education Officer is in charge of tournaments for middle and primary schools.

The *panchayat* tournaments are organized by the Sports Department and these are held at block and district levels. Various *panchayats* take part in block tournaments and block teams compete in district *panchayat* tournaments. The teams from the district are sent to compete for the *panchayat* tournaments held at the state level. The colleges in the district participate in tournaments organized by the University. Various associations also organise open tournaments for different games.

The Sports Department in the district is represented by District Sports Officer who organizes sports programmes. He is assisted by 4 coaches (gymnastics, athletics, hockey and wrestling). The Sports Department gives financial assistance to various associations and institutions for promotion of sports. Young and talented players are encouraged and coaching is imparted to them. Coaching centres have been established separately for men and women for training in various games.

#### Libraries and Museums

**Libraries.**—The institution of village library was introduced in the district in the third decade of the 20th century when about 70 libraries were established in villages. These libraries were meant for literate villagers who for one reason or another could not continue their further studies. The books catering to the needs of persons in different vocations and professions were taken to a central place in a village and distributed from there. These libraries could not be developed for lack of funds. After the attainment of Independence, however, the Government began to encourage the opening of such libraries. Social education centres are provided with small libraries in which books specially written for neo-literates and adults are made available. Mobile libraries are attached to social education mobile squads, each catering to the needs of four or five villages.

A District Library Committee with the Deputy Commissioner as chairman was constituted in 1954 to promote the library movement. A list of the libraries functioning in 1966 is given in Table XI of Appendix.

Colleges and high/higher secondary schools have their own libraries. The Medical College, Rohtak and Shri Mastnath Ayurvedic Degree College, Asthal Bohar have well stocked libraries of medical books. Bishambar Vedic Library, a repository of old oriental books



in Gurukul Jhajjar is also worth mentioning. These libraries are mostly used by the students and staff of these institutions.

**Archaeological Museum, Gurukul Jhajjar.**—The museum was established in 1961 and is housed in Gurukul Jhajjar. It was started with small collections of coins and coin-moulds of Yaudheyas and Kushans. Later ancient coins and punch-marked coins of many Hindu dynasties, clay seals, moulds of Muslim coins, ancient statues, inscriptions, etc., were acquired through various sources. Some of these coins and coin-moulds of Yaudheyas have come from the Rohtak district itself indicating that it had been the heart of Yaudheya territory. The legend on a class of these coins run *yaudheya-ganasya jayah* 'victory be to the republic of the Yaudheyas'.

It may be hoped that this museum will gradually develop into an important centre containing source materials for local and regional history.

## CHAPTER XVI

# MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

### Background

Before the advent of the British two systems of medicine flourished side by side. The Hindus mainly patronized the Ayurvedic system and the Muslims favoured the Unani system. The allopathic system of medicine was introduced during the British rule. Exotic but based on the progressive researches in medical science, it gradually carried conviction of its usefulness. The Government opened a number of hospitals and dispensaries in the country to provide medical facilities on an increasing scale. These were, however, at no time adequate to meet the needs of the whole population. The rural masses in particular therefore continued to depend on the services of Ayurvedic practitioners who, apart from being more readily available, charged small fees. Realising that the indigenous system of medicine had been favoured by the masses for a long time, the Punjab Government established the Directorate of Ayurveda in November 1956, for its revival. At the same time it kept on expanding modern medical facilities to check disease and improve public health.

### Medical and Health Services

The administration of medical relief required attention on several fronts. The health services had to be expanded to cope with the increased number of hospitals and dispensaries and to supervise measures to check epidemics and to organize health education and all schemes connected with the promotion of public health.

The medical and health services are looked after by the Chief Medical Officer assisted by Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Medical) and Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Health).<sup>1</sup> The medical service is essentially a hospital organization for rendering medical relief to the

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1. The departmental set-up was re-organized in July 1964, with a view to providing medical aid to the people in a better way. The two officers concerned with health and medical problems prior to the re-organization of Health Department were the District Medical Officer of Health and the Civil Surgeon, one each at the district headquarters. Rural dispensaries, rural health centres and primary health units were administered by the District Medical Officer of Health while the local body, other civil dispensaries and district and tahsil hospitals were under the charge of the Civil Surgeon.



public. This is provided through Allopathic and Ayurvedic institutions. In 1967, there were 71 allopathic hospitals, dispensaries, health centres and family planning clinics and 22 Ayurvedic dispensaries in the district. The details of these institutions are given in Table XLI of Appendix and more important ones are described here.

**Medical College Hospital, Rohtak.**—This hospital was established in 1962 as the teaching hospital attached to the Medical College, Rohtak. It is the premier medical institution of the State and provides referral and specialised services. It is headed by a Medical Superintendent, but is under the overall administrative control of the Principal of the Medical College. There are 16 departments, viz. Medicine, Clinical Medicine, Surgery, Clinical Surgery, Ophthalmology, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Paediatrics, Orthopaedics, Dermatology, Ear Nose Throat, Tuberculosis, Psychiatry, Dental, Radiology, Clinical Pathology and Casualty, headed by different professors on the teaching staff of the Medical College. In 1966, 69,478 persons were given treatment as outpatients while 11,698 patients were treated as indoor patients.

The hospital provides accommodation for about 650 beds, an extensive outpatients department, a block of special wards, an X-ray department, a kitchen block, an administrative block and two cafeterias. Ancillary facilities including a clinical laboratory, a blood bank, a dispensary and stores are also provided.

**District Tuberculosis Clinic, Rohtak.**—Changing concepts in the treatment of tuberculosis have brought the clinical/domiciliary service to the forefront. The District T. B. Association, Rohtak, is running a Tuberculosis Clinic in Rohtak town. It was started in 1945 in a very small building in the premises of the Civil Hospital. In August 1960, the clinic shifted to its own building on the Gohana road.

The Clinic provides diagnostic and treatment facilities for cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. It is catering to the needs of all tubercular cases in the district. Every year about 3,000 new cases are examined, out of which approximately 25 per cent are detected as T.B. cases. Poor patients are given free medicine and diagnostic service. The Clinic affords domiciliary treatment to the T.B. cases in rural areas through Medical Officers, in charge of the primary health centres/units/dispensaries.

**Shri Yogiraj Mastnath Ayurvedic Free Hospital, Asthal Bohar.**—Constructed in the memory of late Mahant Purannath, it was completed and equipped at a cost of Rs. 3,08,000 and opened as a free hospital on September 10, 1951.

This hospital with 200 beds has 2 sections—eye and general. The staff of the eye section consists of 1 Eye Specialist, 1 House Surgeon, 3 Compounders, 5 Ward Servants besides other class IV employees. The medical side of the general section is under the charge of an Ayurvedic Specialist while the surgical side is under a House Surgeon. The other staff in the general section consists of 3 Compounders, 1 Ward Servant and other class IV employees. The general section of the Hospital is also attached to the Ayurvedic College, Asthal Bohar, for imparting practical training to the students.

#### Diseases Common to the District

The common diseases that occur in the district are typhoid group of fevers, tuberculosis, dysentery and diarrhoea, trachoma and chest infections (other than tuberculosis). Epidemic diseases, viz. cholera, plague and smallpox are the three notifiable diseases under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.

**Cholera.**—It is not endemic in the Rohtak district. The number of cases has not been large in recent years because of the strict vigilance and other anti-cholera measures like medical inspection posts and mass inoculation in hospitals and dispensaries. With the development and expansion of public health activities relating to pure water-supply, pavement and drainage of streets, removal of refuse and manure heaps, anti-fly and general sanitation measures, the incidence of the outbreaks has been reduced.

During 1950, cholera appeared in the district and 76 cases were reported. Of these 46 proved fatal. Again, infection was imported in 1960 from Mathura and Vrindaban in Uttar Pradesh, where some inhabitants of this district had gone on a pilgrimage. This led to 82 cases with 24 deaths. Barring these two occasions, the intervening years have been completely free from cholera.

**Plague.**—At one time, it was one of the most dreaded pestilences. Ever since its appearance in 1897, plague had never been entirely



eradicated from the Province till 1937. It first appeared in the Jhajjar tahsil in March 1903 and within a year spread to the adjoining tahsils. The mortality which had been slight in the first year then rose to 4,282 and in 1905 reached the alarming figure of 31,964, the northern part of the district being most severely attacked. Plague ravaged the district again in 1907, 1924 and 1926 when the mortality in the respective years was 34,906, 33,639 and 21,203.

After 1937, the district has fortunately remained free from this epidemic. The factors determining its disappearance include the development of natural immunity to the disease in the rat population, spraying of houses with DDT to kill rat fleas and de-ratting measures.

**Smallpox.**—This district has never been free from smallpox throughout its history. The disease has been characterised by waves of increased incidence separated by varying periods of quiescence. Though the increased facilities and public awareness for vaccination and re-vaccination have resulted in a remarkable reduction in the outbreak of the disease, yet its complete eradication is still a long way off. Table XLII of Appendix gives data on the incidence of smallpox and the preventive measures taken in the district during 1950—65.

Many factors operate adversely. The cases are concealed and not reported to the authorities by the villagers on account of their belief that it is a visitation of goddess *mata*. New-born children are not vaccinated and grown-ups are not re-vaccinated. Above all, the vaccination staff is insufficient and not always very effective.

Vaccination is a potent weapon for eradicating it. The district was covered for mass-vaccination under National Smallpox Eradication Programme. The entire population was vaccinated between May 21, 1962, and July 31, 1963. This measure suppressed the epidemic from 1963 to 1965, but it spurted up again in 1966 as part of a country-wide epidemic.

**Malaria.**—This epidemic develops during years of excessive wet monsoon associated with overflow of rivers resulting in a large number of stagnant pools. Due to heavy rains in 1952, as many as 100 villages were flooded. Extensive measures had, therefore, to be

taken to prevent the outbreak of the disease in the affected areas. Anti-malaria work was carried out in 115 localities of Rohtak, Sonapat and Gohana tahsils in 1953 and 1954.

Malaria control measures undertaken during 1953-58 resulted in a marked decline in the annual incidence of the disease. The child spleen rate diminished and, similarly, the child parasite rate decreased. With this success National Malaria Control Programme was switched over to National Malaria Eradication Programme during 1958. Under this programme, anti-malaria operations were carried on regularly in the district by the Malaria Unit, Rohtak. Consequently the number of cases in the district considerably dwindled and the area has been declared almost free from malaria:

Year	Malaria cases treated in dispensaries
1952	20,684
1953	23,918
1954	..
1955	22,356
1956	..
1957	13,880
1958	4,580
1959	3,395
1960	3,080
1961	1
1962	—
1963	2
1964	1
1965	2
1966	6



After the eradication of malaria Gohana sub-division comprising Gohana, Mundlana and Kathura blocks was switched over to the maintenance phase from December 1, 1965. It was to be supervised by Basic Health Workers in the primary health centres. Malaria work in these blocks was to be supervised by the Medical Officer under the maintenance scheme. In January 1967, the special appraisal team again visited the district and recommended the maintenance phase for the rest of the district except Nahar block. The work in the consolidation phase was supervised by the Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Health), the Malaria Officer, 2 Senior Malaria Inspectors and 4 Malaria Inspectors. There were 114 Surveillance Workers doing surveillance work in the consolidated area.

**Tuberculosis.**—It has been a major problem in the district. In order to control the disease emphasis has, during the recent years, been placed on prevention. B.C.G. vaccination campaign is well in progress. It was launched under the T.B. Control Programme in 1950 by one Mobile Team responsible for mass inoculation in the whole of the then Punjab State. An independent team for the district consisting of technicians under the supervision of the Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Health) came into existence in 1960 and has since been carrying on B.C.G. work in a planned manner visiting house to house. The situation is well under control. After covering Sonapat sub-division, it is operating in Gohana sub-division. The entire population of the district has been tuberculin tested twice and those found negative have been given B.C.G. vaccination. The treatment of T.B. cases is also extended through the Medical Officer, in charge, primary health centres/units.

**Trachoma.**—Trachoma is prevalent amongst the rural masses. The primary health centres are playing a major role in the control of the disease.

**Influenza.**—This epidemic has made its appearance frequently. During 1955 and 1956, 1,570 and 1,475 cases occurred. In 1957 an epidemic occurred as in the rest of the country. As many as 9,514 cases were reported.

**Communicable Diseases.**—The most common communicable diseases are typhoid and enteric group of fevers, dysentery and diarrhoea. The district has remained free from cholera since 1951 though there was a mild epidemic with 24 deaths in 1960.

The communicable diseases are well under control as a result of organised preventive measures like chlorination of wells by the public

health staff at primary health centres/units and the supervisory staff at the district headquarters.

### Vital Statistics

The satisfactory results achieved by the Health Department are reflected in reduced incidence of diseases, lower mortality — both infant and adult — longer expectation of life and all round better health of the community. Table XLIII of Appendix showing the number of deaths caused by different diseases from 1950 onwards and the following table showing birth and death rate and the infant mortality from 1941 onwards illustrates this position :—

Year	Birth rate per thousand of population	Death rate per thousand of population	Infant mortality (under one year of age) per thousand live births
1941	49.28	28.64	174.14
1942	41.26	44.26	326.72
1943	31.31	32.30	274.28
1944	38.79	28.10	175.03
1945	43.19	21.97	138.01
1946	42.40	16.70	119.01
1947	42.50	20.10	160.30
1948	39.80	15.40	119.34
1949	39.70	14.90	115.12
1950	40.87	19.26	124.94
1951	45.42	14.29	98.39
1952	45.66	19.24	117.34
1953	45.72	19.22	111.49
1954	42.27	13.82	93.33
1955	49.54	14.49	87.04



Year	Birth rate per thousand of population	Death rate per thousand of population	Infant mortality (under one year of age) per thousand live births
1956	47.32	16.25	109.15
1957	48.32	14.87	99.14
1958	47.65	16.17	101.13
1959	45.92	11.83	76.18
1960	46.03	14.98	75.22
1961	40.83	11.38	72.24
1962	38.50	11.30	71.13
1963	37.11	10.35	58.08
1964	34.25	9.64	60.93
1965	34.83	8.76	61.95
1966	35.19	9.00	43.02

These figures are very revealing. While the birth rate has been more or less steady through the two decades it has declined since 1962. The death rate has also fallen considerably in the sixties. The steady fall in infant mortality also coincides with the birth and death rate.

**General standard of health.**—The general standard of health of the inhabitants of the Rohtak district compares favourably with that of other districts in the State. Within the district itself the average build and physique of both males and females in the Jhajjar tahsil is superior to that of people in other tahsils.

**Population variation.**—Population has varied during the intercensal periods consequent upon natural increase or decrease as well

as large-scale epidemics and particularly in the 1941—51 decade owing to the movement of people caused by the Partition:

Census Year	Population	Variation <sup>1</sup>	Percentage Increase (+) or decrease (—)
1901	8,58,184	..	..
1911	7,40,319	(—)1,17,865	(—)13.7
1921	7,98,105	(+) 57,786	(+) 7.8
1931	8,33,837	(+) 35,732	(+) 4.5
1941	9,87,065	(+)1,53,228	(+)18.4
1951	11,22,046	(+)1,34,981	(+)13.7
1961	14,20,391	(+)2,98,345	(+)26.6

The apparently smaller increase in the population during the 1941—51 decade was due to the exodus of a large number of people at the time of the Partition than the number of immigrants from West Pakistan. The greater increase in the population during the 1951—61 decade was due to a lower rate of mortality in consequence of measures adopted by the Government after Independence.

#### Preventive Measures to promote Public Health

The modern conception of good health rightly lays greater emphasis on prevention of disease. This necessitates various kinds of measures. The younger generation at school as well as the older members of the community must be given health education which is perhaps the most important preventive measure. The importance of good health habits formed in the earlier years cannot be over-emphasized. Likewise, family planning and maternity welfare require the greatest attention if the problem of over population has to be satisfactorily dealt with. It is equally necessary to take measures to prevent adulteration of food to promote the knowledge and

1. For detailed comments on variation, see pages 35-36 of Chapter on 'People'



practice of nutritive articles of food, to make supply of clean drinking-water possible for even those living in rural areas and to take all other such steps as will improve environmental hygiene.

**School health services.**—Under the programme started during the Second Five-Year Plan, a school health clinic was established at Rohtak in 1958-59. It provides medical inspection, treatment and follow-up of school-going children in consultation with their parents. The staff of this clinic includes two doctors, one in charge of the general clinic and the other of the eye and E.N.T. (Ear, Nose, Throat). There is also a Dental Surgeon who treats the dental cases. The school health services are also provided by the Medical Officers in charge of the primary health centres/units.

The work done by the School Health Clinic, Rohtak, is detailed below :

	1962	1963	1964	1965
Number of students examined	10,799	5,992	10,023	3,441
Number of students found defective	1,880	2,725	7,579	2,740
Number of students given treatment	1,718	2,725	7,579	2,740

**Health education.**—The Medical Officers, in charge primary health centres/units and their staff also carry out health education and propaganda. The District Family Planning Education Officer also utilises his staff to disseminate health education. This programme creates health consciousness in the younger and older members of the community.

**Family planning.**—As elsewhere the expectation of life in the Rohtak district itself has risen to 50 years which is nearly double the pre-Independence figure. This has happened as a consequence of health education, prevention of disease and medical relief. In order to carry out Government policy the Family Planning Programme was introduced in the district in 1959 with the opening of 2 family planning clinics — one at Rohtak (urban) and the other at Ganaur (rural — Sonapat tahsil). The third was opened at Madina (Gohana tahsil). With the help of grants-in-aid from the Government of India, the District Red Cross Society has also opened 8 family planning clinics. In addition, family planning clinics are functioning at all the primary health

centres/units except Primary Health Centre, Sampla. Vasectomy/LU.C.D. (popularly known as Loop)<sup>1</sup> camps are organized at all these centres/units and maternity and child welfare centres. The conventional contraceptives such as condoms, foam tablets, jellies, diaphragms etc., are also made available freely.

The following data gives an idea about the successful work done under the family planning programme :—

Year	Number of persons				
	given advice	visited at home	attended the clinics for check-up visits	operated upon for steriliza- tion (viz. vasectomy operations)	fitted with loop
1959-60	292	310	279	35	—
1960-61	804	5,003	408	—	—
1961-62	16,902	7,864	815	—	—
1962-63	16,331	9,044	2,280	12	—
1963-64	17,196	10,159	3,024	79	—
1964-65	19,830	12,363	3,790	432	—
1965-66	26,426	13,989	4,730	1,036	7,108
1966-67	—	—	—	1,458	13,670

Efforts are afoot to make the people deeply conscious of the need for family planning through intensive health education/propaganda. Family planning seminars/camps under the supervision of the Medical Officer are organized in every block where vasectomy operations are performed and family planning activities are explained and highlighted. Loop insertions, started in 1965, have become very popular.

1. Loop is an intra-uterine contraceptive device that prevents the development of a fetus in the womb.



**Maternity and child health.**—There exist 8 maternity and child welfare centres in the district. Of these, 5 are maintained by the Red Cross Society, Rohtak, and 3 by the Municipal Committees, Rohtak and Sonapat. All the Lady Health Visitors posted at these centres belong to the provincial cadre. In addition, the maternity and child welfare work is done in all the primary health centres/units and their sub-centres.

**Primary health centres.**—There are 13 primary health centres and 3 primary health units, i.e. one in each block and two in Kharkhauda block (one at Kharkhauda and the other at Sampla). These provide facilities for curative/preventive side and also for health education. All the institutions are equipped with microscopes and clinical side-rooms. Investigation facilities are also available. These are self-sufficient institutions and provide facilities for maternity and child welfare, family planning, T.B. control, malaria eradication, etc., to every person living even in a remote corner of the district. These centres are under the charge of a Medical Officer who supervises all the health activities in a block area. He supervises and guides the work of other institutions, viz. maternity and child welfare centres, rural dispensaries and Ayurvedic dispensaries in the capacity of Block Medical Officer.

The primary health centres/units are UNICEF-aided and have been provided with UNICEF jeeps, refrigerators and other equipment. UNICEF executes its Milk Feeding Programme through these centres/units and their sub-centres.

**Prevention of adulteration in food-stuffs.**—Every effort is being made to eradicate adulteration in food-stuffs under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. The officers invested with the powers of Food Inspector are: Chief Medical Officer, Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Health), Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Medical), Government Food Inspector, District Sanitary Inspectors, Gohana, and Sonapat and all H.C.M.S. II Officers in the district. In urban areas under the local bodies Chief Sanitary Inspectors of Municipal Committees, Rohtak and Sonapat also exercise powers under the Act. The work done about the prevention of adulteration in food-stuffs is detailed in Table XLIV of Appendix.

**Nutrition.**—The primary health centres/units deal with nutrition, particularly in maternity and child welfare centres by organising Milk Feeding Programme, providing vitamin A and D capsules, iron and

multi-vitamin tablets and B-complex tablets received by them from the UNICEF. They also provide nutrients and medicines under School Health Services to the needy school children. With the assistance of the Government of India and UNICEF, Applied Nutrition Programme is also being carried out in Rai block. It aims at educating people in taking balanced and nutritive food from among the available food items.

**Water-supply (urban).—**The piped water-supply system is functioning at Rohtak, Sonapat, Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar and Beri. Rohtak waterworks is the oldest having been set up in 1934. Gohana and Maham waterworks are under construction. The present waterworks at Rohtak need considerable extensions to provide adequate amount of water. The water-supply *per capita* is about 10 to 20 gallons per day against the requirement of 20 to 40 gallons.

**Water-supply (rural).—**From the point of view of availability of drinking-water, the district can be divided into three regions, namely, (i) the areas on the eastern side contiguous to the Yamuna falling in the Sonapat tahsil, (ii) the southern areas of the Jhajjar tahsil not covered by any canal irrigation system, and (iii) the rest of the district. People are mostly dependent upon water drawn from dug-wells. Except in region (i), these dug-wells are constructed near ponds where the water in the wells exists due to the leaching action of the ponds and is therefore subject to all sort of surface pollution. Under the National Water-Supply and Sanitation Programme only eight villages, viz. Bhalaut (tahsil Rohtak); Khanpur Kalan (tahsil Gohana); Rai, Jatheri, Badh Khalsa, Badh Malak (tahsil Sonapat); Kaliawan and Khachroli (tahsil Jhajjar); have been covered so far. The scarcity of drinking-water is the acutest in region No. (ii)<sup>1</sup> and a scheme costing about Rs. 36 lakhs and covering 28 villages has been taken up.

**Sewerage and sanitation (urban and rural).—**Rohtak and Sonapat are the only two towns with underground sewerage system. The coverage of the sewerage system is partial as only a portion of the trunk mains has been laid. The sewage pumping station of Rohtak was damaged during unprecedented floods in 1960 due to the

1. In some villages of Jhajjar tahsil people sometimes have to walk for miles to fetch water. In Maham and Nahar areas, the underground water being brackish, people use water from a pond or a canal for cooking purposes if any happens to be near at hand. They continue to drink water from the wells even if it is brackish.



extraordinary rise of spring level. It is awaiting repairs. However, it is functioning as a palliative measure as its working becomes unsatisfactory during heavy rains.

**Environmental hygiene.**—The sanitation in rural areas is still not satisfactory. Under the Community Development Programme certain villages have got paved streets, pukka drains and sanitary wells but their maintenance is poor. The *panchayats* generally do not pay any attention to the work. In most of the villages there are no satisfactory arrangements for the disposal of human and cattle excreta and sullage matter. The sanitation work is entrusted to the Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Health). He is assisted by 1 Senior Sanitary Inspector, 3 District Sanitary Inspectors, 1 Sanitary Supervisor, 6 Sanitary Mates and 14 Zila Parishad Swasth Sahayaks and 12 Government Swasth Sahayaks posted at the district headquarters and tahsil headquarters, who frequently visit rural areas in order to improve the environmental sanitation. There is other staff also under the Block Medical Officer. Under the present set-up in which the supervisory work is effective, there is a distinct improvement in the environmental sanitation in rural areas which is reflected by decrease in the death rate.

The sanitary arrangements in the urban areas are also far from satisfactory. Even at Rohtak there is no Municipal Medical Officer of Health at present. Other committees in the district have Sanitary Inspectors or only Vaccinators to look after the sanitation of the towns.

**Flood relief.**—During floods the public health staff takes speedy measures to afford relief to the flood affected areas. Temporary dispensaries are established. Drinking-water wells are repeatedly disinfected and the affected localities are sprayed with insecticides to prevent breeding of the mosquitoes and flies and thus to check malaria. Funds are also provided by the Government for purchase of medicines and other equipment which is utilised for flood relief work as and when required. In addition the District Red Cross Society distributes blankets, quilts and other items of clothing, skim-milk, multi-vitamin tablets and other items of necessity. Such measures were taken during the years 1957, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964 and 1967 when vast areas of the district were flooded.

**UNICEF work and other preventive programmes.**—UNICEF is doing very good work to promote good health in the district. It has provided

the equipment standard sets to all the primary health centres/units in the district qualified for such assistance. Thirteen UNICEF vehicles have also been provided for these centres/units. In addition, milk and medicine supplements are supplied every year to these as well as to 8 maternity and child welfare centres. UNICEF's Milk Feeding Programme is carried out through the primary health centres/units and maternity and child welfare centres where more than 40,000 lb. of skim-milk powder is distributed to the beneficiaries every year. UNICEF authorities are now considering to provide assistance to the remaining 3 primary health centres; namely, Kathura, Dhakla and Juan.



## CHAPTER XVII

### OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

#### LABOUR WELFARE

Prior to Independence, there was no regular Government organization to look after the welfare of industrial workers, and to settle industrial disputes, and other connected labour problems. A separate Labour Department in the State was established in 1949. The Labour Officer, Rohtak, and the Conciliation Officer, Bhiwani, represented the department for this district. After the creation of Haryana, these two offices have been combined. Now the jurisdiction of the Labour Officer-cum-Conciliation Officer, Sonapat, working under the Labour Commissioner, Haryana at Chandigarh, extends over the Rohtak district.

As Labour Officer, he is assisted by the Labour Inspector, Sonapat (with jurisdiction over the Rohtak district except the Rohtak tahsil), the Labour Inspector, Bhiwani (who looks after the implementation of labour laws in the Rohtak tahsil also), and the Shop Inspector, Rohtak. As Conciliation Officer, he initiates conciliation proceedings for the settlement of industrial disputes and tries to settle disputes by mediation and by joint discussion. On his failure the matter is referred to the Labour Court/Industrial Tribunal, Faridabad through Government.<sup>1</sup>

#### Labour Legislation

Labour legislation is necessary to tackle economic and social problems as civil laws in general, do not particularly deal with labour problems. The labour laws are motivated by a humanitarian approach, as propounded by the International Labour Organization and are based on the principles of social justice. Labour, under the Constitution of India, is a concurrent subject and as such both the Central and the States' Legislatures are empowered to make laws. Accordingly, the State Government has also enacted certain labour legislation to suit the local needs. The more important labour laws in force and their main provisions are detailed in Table XLV of Appendix.

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1. Reference to National Tribunal is to be made by Central Government to cover such cases as are of national importance or those in which establishments in more than one State may be affected.

**Industrial relations.**—The relations between the employees and the employer are governed by the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The Labour Officer-cum-Conciliation Officer, Sonapat, is responsible for enforcing it. His efforts are directed towards fostering good relations between the management and the workers by removing, as far as possible, the causes of friction and by timely redress of the grievances of the parties. Emphasis is laid on settlement of disputes, through direct negotiations across the table, or voluntary arbitration, rather than through compulsory adjudication.

Though the functions of the Conciliation Officer are advisory and he has no direct power to make or vary awards or agreements, he has been successful in bringing about a large number of agreements between the parties. During the period 1967-68, 360 disputes were handled by the Conciliation Officer in the district. Of these, 94 were settled through his intervention, 47 were referred to adjudication and the rest were either withdrawn or rejected as frivolous.

**Works committees.**—To promote good relations between the employers and workmen, there is a provision in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, for the setting up of works committees in the industrial establishments, employing 100 or more workmen. Such committees, consisting of representatives of the employers and the workmen exist in the following establishments:—

- (1) Haryana Co-operative Sugar Mills Limited, Rohtak,
- (2) Mohan Spinning Mill, Rohtak, (3) The Atlas Cycle Industries Limited, Sonapat, (4) The Milton Cycle Industries Limited, Sonapat, (5) Bharat Porcelain, Sonapat,
- (6) Organo Chemical Industries, Sonapat, (7) Aggarwal Glass Company, Sonapat, (8) Bharat Steel Tubes Limited, Ganaur, (9) Hindusthan Twyford Limited, Bahadurgarh,
- (10) Hindusthan National Glass Manufacturing Company Limited, Bahadurgarh, (11) United Steel and Allied Industries, Bahadurgarh, (12) Hindustan Dowidat Tools Limited, Sonapat, (13) Municipal Committee, Sonapat, and (14) Municipal Committee, Rohtak.

**Strikes.**—In spite of the efforts to promote good relations between the employers and workmen, strikes occur now and then. The details of the noticeable strikes that occurred in the district during 1967 and 1968 are given in Table XLVI of Appendix.

**Trade unions.**—Judging from the increasing number of registered trade unions, the trade union movement in the district has gained



momentum since Independence. In 1968 there were 42 trade unions registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926. Their list may be seen, vide Table XLVII of Appendix.

**Factories Act, 1948.**—The Act regulates the conditions of labour in factories not using power and employing 20 or more workers and in factories using power and employing 10 or more workers. Elaborate provisions have been made in the Act regarding the conditions of work inside the factories including hours of work, leave with wages in case of occupational diseases, employment of young persons, safeguards for health, hygiene, and promotion of safety and the welfare of workers in general. Special provisions exist for young persons and women. Facilities for rendering first-aid, running canteens and creches, making available drinking-water, etc., near the place of work are also provided.

With the establishment of large-scale units during the Third Five-Year Plan, the execution of various provisions of the Factories Act for labour welfare assumed special importance. The attitude of the employer has changed in favour of providing better amenities to labour. Consequently, there is no special problem about the enforcement of statutory provisions like appointment of a Labour Officer and provision of basic amenities at the place of work. Promising and progressive factories like Hindusthan Twyford's Limited (Bahadurgarh), Hindusthan National Glass Manufacturing Company Limited (Bahadurgarh), Mohan Spinning Mill (Rohtak), Bharat Steel Tubes Limited (Ganaur), the Atlas Cycle Industries Limited (Sonapat) and Hindustan Dowdat Tools Limited (Sonapat) have gone a step further and provided, among other facilities free medical aid, sale of consumer goods at fair prices on credit, residential quarters and transport to and from factory site.

The Factories Act, 1948, is administered in this district by the Inspector of Factories, Ambala, and by the Medical Inspector of Factories, Ambala. The Labour Officer-cum-Conciliation Officer, and the Labour Inspector also act as Inspectors of Factories. The Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Health) also functions as Additional Inspector of Factories for enforcing the health provisions contained in the Factories Act.

**Employees' Provident Funds Scheme.**—The wages of industrial workers are not sufficient to enable them to save adequately for their old age. When old age or illness renders them unfit for work, they are forced to lead a life of abject poverty and dependence. In the

event of a worker's premature death, his dependents are left destitute. The Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, framed by the Government of India, under the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952, attempts to remedy this situation.

Starting with 6 industries, the Act now covers 107 industries. Previously, it was applicable to the factories employing 50 or more persons, but the limit was lowered from December 31, 1960, and factories/establishments employing 20 or more persons were covered under the scheme. In the Rohtak district 43 factories/establishments were covered by March 31, 1966 and out of 2,991 workers, 2,200 contributed to the scheme.

Provident Fund contribution is deducted at the rate of 6½ per cent from the monthly wages of the employees subscribing to the Fund and an equal amount is contributed by the employers. The rate of contribution has since been enhanced from 6½ per cent to 8 per cent in certain industries/establishments. The entire amount is deposited with the State Bank of India in Employees' Provident Funds Account. The administrative charges at a fixed rate are contributed additionally by the employers. The fund vests in a Central Board of Trustees having nominees of the Central Government, State Government and representatives of employers and employees. The Central Provident Fund Commissioner at New Delhi is the Chief Executive Officer. The Regional Provident Fund Commissioner at Chandigarh is responsible for the implementation of the scheme in Punjab, Haryana and the Union Territories of Chandigarh and Himachal Pradesh.

The members can draw an advance for payment of premia on their Life Insurance Policies, purchase of a dwelling site or house, construction of a house, purchase of shares of consumer co-operative societies, for expenses in case of serious illness, etc.

To afford financial assistance to the nominees/heirs of the deceased members, a Death Relief Fund was set up in 1964. A minimum of Rs. 500 is assured by way of relief. A non-refundable advance is also granted in case of individual retrenchment in order to mitigate the immediate hardship.

A member is allowed to withdraw the full amount standing to his credit in the Fund under such circumstances as on completing 15 years of membership, on attaining the age of 55 years, after retirement from service, retirement on account of permanent and total incapacity



for work, migration from India for permanent settlement abroad and termination of service in the case of mass retrenchment.

**Employees' State Insurance Scheme.**—It is designed to provide security to the industrial workers against sickness, maternity and employment injury in the form of cash benefits. Wherever applicable, the scheme is compulsory.<sup>1</sup> The following contribution is made by the employers and the employees:—

- (1) Till the enforcement of the scheme, an employer is to pay a special contribution at the rate of 0.75 per cent of the total wages. From the day the purview of medical benefits is extended to any station, the employer's special contribution is payable at the rate given in Schedule I of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948. The employers of implemented areas are however paying 2.5 per cent at present as an interim arrangement.
- (2) An employee is to contribute about 2.5 per cent of his wages from the day the scheme is extended to that area.

The scheme functions under the Employees' State Insurance Corporation which has its headquarters at New Delhi. It is under the administrative control of the Director General, Employees' State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi. The scheme is at present executed in the State through the Regional Director, Employees' State Insurance Scheme, Circular Road, Amritsar,<sup>2</sup> who inspects factories, collects contributions and arranges payment of cash benefits.

The provision of medical benefit is the statutory responsibility of the State Government and facilities are to be given according to the standards laid down by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. Most of the expenditure on medical care is contributed by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation and only 1/8 of the total expenditure is borne by the State Government. The expenditure on

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1. The workers (drawing rupees four hundred or less per mensem) of the factories employing 20 or more persons and using power in the manufacturing process, are covered under the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948. Exemption is given in the case of workers working in seasonal factories or factories which are not using power, or in tea plantations, mines, railway running sheds and defence concerns.

2. The constitution of a separate Regional Board for Haryana is under consideration.

other cash benefits is to be met entirely out of the Employees' State Insurance Fund and is arranged by the Regional Director.

To begin with, the scheme was implemented in Sonapat in 1961. By December, 1965, there were 4,300 beneficiaries who were covered under the scheme. It was extended to Rohtak and Bahadurgarh from February 27, 1966, and the number of beneficiaries increased to 7,300 by March 31, 1967.

**Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme.**—Realising the importance of housing and environmental hygiene as a welfare amenity at a rental within the means of the workers, the Government of India initiated the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme in September 1952.

Two colonies have been established under this scheme with 200 houses, half of them one-roomed and the other half two-roomed at Rohtak and 126 houses at Sonapat. The rent is charged at the rate of Rs. 11 for a one-roomed house and Rs. 14 for a two-roomed house per month. Workers getting a salary of not more than Rs. 250 per mensem are entitled to a one-roomed house while those getting up to Rs. 350 per mensem to a two-roomed house. The colonies are provided with electricity and water, and there is provision for parks and other modern amenities.

Subsidised by the Government, Bawa Iron and Steel Works Limited, Sonapat, has constructed 30 two-roomed tenements. One tenement consists of 2 rooms, a kitchen, bath and a flush latrine. A worker has to pay only Rs. 14.50 per month as rent. The colony is situated about 100 yards away from the factory. This enables the workers residing in these tenements to enjoy fresh food at their residence during the interval.

**Labour Welfare Centre.**—The Government Labour Welfare Centre started at Rohtak in 1960, was shifted to Sonapat in April 1965. Indoor and outdoor games are organized at the Centre, and radio sets and musical instruments are provided for recreational and cultural activities. Women are imparted training in sewing and embroidery. There is also a library-cum-reading room.

### PROHIBITION

Rohtak went dry on October 2, 1948. The district was singled out for an experiment in prohibition by the first post-Independence Government of the erstwhile East Punjab on the ground that its inhabitants were vegetarians by and large.



Unfortunately, alcoholic consumption, instead of going down, increased. People started meeting their requirements through illicit sources. There were two such major sources. First, liquor was transported from the neighbouring wet districts of this State, as also from adjoining district of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and the Union Territory of Delhi. The trade in liquor from this source was carried on by the licensees of the neighbouring districts who transported liquor from the distilleries to their vends and shops situated within a radius of 5 miles of the boundaries of the Rohtak district. Second, illicit distillation supply was made by bootleggers who carried on their nefarious trade in villages to which approach roads were not available. Table XLVIII of Appendix shows the rising trend of prohibition offences from 1951 onwards.

The experiment thus created an ugly law and order problem. The State Government lost excise revenue on one hand and had to spend huge amounts on enforcement of the prohibition programme on the other. The new State of Haryana, faced with limited financial resources, could hardly afford this luxury and so it scrapped prohibition from April 1, 1967. This has brought the State Government an additional income of Rs. 1,20,00,000.

### ADVANCEMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES

The Scheduled Castes, Vimukat Jatis and Other Backward Classes<sup>1</sup> residing in the district are as under:

<u>Scheduled Castes</u>	<u>Vimukat Jatis</u>	<u>Other Backward Classes</u>
Ad Dharni	Bangali	Jhinwar
Bangali	Barar	Nai (Kuteen Brahman)
Barar, Burar or Berar	Bauria	Kumhar
Batwal	Gandhila	Khati (Jangra Brahman)
Bauria or Bawaria	Sansi	Lohar

1. Scheduled Castes have been defined in Article 341 of the Constitution of India. Vimukat Jatis connote such a tribe, gang or class of persons or any part of a tribe, gang or class of persons which were deemed to be Criminal Tribes under the Criminal Tribes Act VI of 1924. 'Other Backward Classes' include backward classes other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, recognised as such by the State Government on social and/or economic basis. Scheduled Castes professing a religion other than Hinduism are also deemed to be other Backward Classes.

Scheduled Castes	Vimukat Jatis	Other Backward Classes
Bazigar	Kuchband	Jogi Nath
Balmiki, Chura or Bhangi	Rechhbana	Gawaria (Banjara)
Bhanjra	Aharia or Aheri	Dhobi
Chamar, Jatia Chamar, Rehgar, Raigar, Ramdasi or Ravidasi	Singhikat	Baragi
Dagi	Dhe	Bhat
Dhatrak		Dakut
Dunna, Mahasha or Doom		Chhipi, Tank or Darzi
Kabir Panthi or Julaha		Naiks, Aheria or Aheri
Khatik		Bharbhunja
Kori or Koli		Manihar
Nazhabi		Bagria
Tat		
ed		
asi		
erna		
ansi, Bhedkut or Manesh		
apela		
Sarera		
Sikligar		
Sirkiband		

These people are scattered all over the district. Khatiks, Dhobis, Naiks and Bharbhunjias are generally found in the towns; Kabir Panthis and Meghs in Gohana area; Bawarias in the Jhajjar tahsil; Dhes, a nomadic tribe, in Rohtak town; and some of the others like Sansis and Jogi Naths mostly reside in the rural areas. Some of the



main professions pursued by these classes include agricultural labour, weaving, leather tanning, shoemaking, sweeping and scavenging, *chhaj*, basket and *sirki* making, and grain roasting.

The 1951 Census recorded 1,98,922 persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes in the district while the number recorded in the 1961 Census was 2,43,958 (1,27,121 males and 1,16,837 females), thus showing an increase of about 23 per cent during 1951—61. In 1961, they formed 17.2 per cent of the total population of the district. Among the Scheduled Castes enumerated, Chamars claimed the highest number (1,21,124), followed by Balmikis (61,136), Dhanaks (46,586), Kabir Panthis (7,885), Khatiks (2,718) and Bawarias (1,340).

The Department of Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes has adopted certain measures for the benefit of these classes in pursuance of the Directive Principles embodied in the Constitution of India:

**Removal of untouchability.**—Article 17 of the Constitution of India abolished untouchability and forbade its practice in any form. The practice of untouchability was also declared an offence under the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955. Despite these constitutional guarantees, it is extant in one form or another, especially in the rural areas. To eradicate untouchability, a special programme is carried on through community centres known as Sanskar Kendras and Balwads. These are started at places where there are large concentrations of members of the Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes. These centres are open to all classes without any distinction. Besides the three R's, women are taught cooking, first-aid, home nursing, care of the baby, mending of clothes and some craft by a Lady Social Worker, while children are taught cleanliness, games, good behaviour and cultivation of right habits. The charges on cloth, sewing machines and books are met by the Government.

Eight community centres are functioning in villages Sisana and Sanghi (Rohtak tahsil), Kundli and Saidpur (Sonapat tahsil), Khanpur Khurd, Sathawas and Jhajjar (Jhajjar tahsil), and Bichhpari (Gohana tahsil). For the construction of a community centre building, a sum of Rs. 2,000 is paid as subsidy by the Government and an equivalent amount is contributed by the respective *panchayats* which also provide a free site for the building. The centre is maintained in the village as long as necessary. In each centre the staff consists

of one male and one female Social Worker and one Lady Attendant, preferably a trained Dai.

**Encouragement for education.**—The persons belonging to these classes are by and large, illiterate. The special measures taken by the Government to spread education among them have been described in the Chapter on 'Education and Culture'.

**Subsidy for construction of new houses.**—For providing shelter to the homeless members of Scheduled Castes and Vimukhat Jatis, subsidies are granted for the construction of new houses. A subsidy of Rs. 900 for the construction of a house is given to a person who has no house of his own.<sup>1</sup> The proprietary rights of the house remain vested in the Government for 20 years and thereafter the house becomes the property of the beneficiary. The latter, of course, has free use of the house during this period. During the period 1956-57 to 1966-67, a sum of Rs. 2,40,300 was disbursed to 322 beneficiaries. Of these, 313 persons have constructed their houses.

**Subsidy for house sites.**—Overcrowding of houses in Harijan *bastis* in the rural area poses a serious problem. Although the Punjab Village Common Lands (Regulation) Act, 1961, has conferred upon Harijans the proprietary rights over the sites under their houses, yet the problem remains unsolved. A subsidy of Rs. 200 is, therefore, granted to each deserving and needy member of the Scheduled Castes for the purchase of a new house site to relieve congestion in the *bastis*. The scheme was introduced during 1958-59 and up to March 1967, 103 persons benefited from it and received Rs. 20,600 as subsidy.<sup>2</sup>

**Drinking-water amenities.**—Grants are given to Harijans in rural as well as urban areas for the provision of drinking-water facilities. The wells and hand-pumps constructed as such are open to the

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1. A house consisting of one room, one verandah, a kitchen and a courtyard on a total area of 125 or 150 square yards is constructed. The unskilled labour and site are provided by the beneficiary himself.

2. The scheme has been withdrawn since April 1, 1967.



general public also. A sum of Rs. 58,270 has been granted in 195 cases during 1956-57 to 1966-67 for the following projects:—

	Number	Amount (Rs.)
Sinking of new wells	46	25,215
Fixation of hand-pumps	12	2,000
Repair of old wells	137	31,055

**Facilities for industrial training.**—In order to improve the economic condition of the Scheduled Castes and Vimukat Jatis, young people are trained for a year or two as skilled workers in industrial training institutes, industrial schools, etc., so that they may be able to seek gainful employment after the completion of their training. A stipend of Rs. 45 is given during the course of such training. This particular scheme is calculated to improve the status not only of the individual concerned but also of the families to which they belong.

**Grant of interest-free loan.**—For lack of finance, members of the Backward Classes find it difficult to establish themselves in the profession of law, medicine, engineering and architecture. They also need money for establishing or expanding an industry, business or trade. They are, therefore, helped with loans, free of interest, under the Punjab Backward Classes (Grant of Loans) Act, 1957. These loans are recovered in 20 half-yearly instalments and the first recovery starts after the lapse of four years from the date of drawal of the loan. The maximum amount which is granted to a borrower is Rs. 2,000.

The scheme was introduced in 1958-59, and up to March 31, 1967, a sum of Rs. 1,74,975 was advanced to 296 persons from this district.

**Subsidy for purchase of agricultural lands.**—Members of Scheduled Castes and Vimukat Jatis generally depend on land for their livelihood but they have no land of their own. To help the deserving landless members of these communities to acquire land, a subsidy of Rs. 2,000 is granted to a member who in turn has to contribute the remaining amount from his own resources. The land has to be not less than 5 acres whose value should not be less than Rs. 900

per acre. A person so settled is given a subsidy of Rs. 500 for constructing a house on the land purchased. A sum of Rs. 4,28,000 has been given as subsidy to 214 beneficiaries during the period 1956-57 to 1966-67.

**Legal assistance.**—The members of the Scheduled Castes and Vimukhat Jatis are provided with legal assistance to defend themselves in cases involving ejectment from land, etc. The implementation of this scheme is under the charge of the Deputy Commissioner. During the period 1956-57 to 1966-67, this assistance has been granted in 18 cases and amounts to Rs. 1,908.

Mention may also be made of some of the representative institutions or branches of all-India institutions working for the uplift of the Backward Classes. These are: Harijan Sewak Sangh, Bharat Sewak Samaj, Sweepers Union, Haryana Backward Classes Federation, Haryana Harijan Ashram, Scheduled Castes Federation, Gandhi Harijan Sewa Ashram, and Ravi Dass Hostel—all operating from Rohtak town. Of these, Harijan Sewak Sangh and Bharat Sewak Samaj are the two institutions pursuing a regular programme under the guidance and advice of the all-India bodies concerned. Gandhi Harijan Sewa Ashram and Ravi Dass Hostel are also rendering considerable assistance by providing free lodging facilities.

The problem of Harijan welfare is gigantic. Considering that Harijans form a sizeable portion of the population, the funds available to finance deserving schemes are relatively meagre. Therefore, the schemes aimed at economic uplift of these classes have resulted in improvement of the economic condition of a very small number.

#### **Charitable Organizations.**

These play an important role in society. Many educational institutions, hospitals, dharmshalas and other similar institutions are run by these organisations. The finances are either provided by contributions, or by revenue-free lands attached to some of these. Math Baba Mast Nath is of special note. Its public welfare programme includes the propagation of *sadachar* and *yoga*. An eye and general hospital, a pharmacy and an Ayurvedic degree college are run by the *Math*.

The Jat Educational Society and Vaish Educational Society are other important charitable organisations which run various educational institutions.



## CHAPTER XVIII

### PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

#### REPRESENTATION OF THE DISTRICT IN THE STATE AND UNION LEGISLATURES

##### First General Elections, 1952

According to the Constitution adopted by her, India became Sovereign Democratic Republic on the 26th January, 1950. The First General Elections were held in 1952. In spite of doubts expressed about the wisdom of adult suffrage the results fully justified the confidence reposed in the common man and raised the credit of India in the international sphere.<sup>1</sup>

The task of conducting the First General Elections in the whole State of the then Punjab was of great magnitude and complexity. The influx of displaced persons from Pakistan coupled with the extension of the franchise from 13½ per cent to about 50 per cent of the population required the preparation of almost entirely new rolls in a very limited time; delimitation of constituencies had to be undertaken afresh; over 7,000 polling stations had to be set up as against 1,300 in 1946; a large contingent of subordinate staff had to be made conversant with the new and complicated election procedure; and a host of other difficulties had to be overcome. Patient and laborious work, however, provided the foundation which proved exceedingly useful in the later elections.

**Lok Sabha.**—Of the two constituencies for Lok Sabha, Rohtak constituency incorporated a part of the Hissar district while Jhajjar-Rewari, a part of the Gurgaon district. The details of the constituencies are given in Table XLIX of Appendix. Both the constituencies returned the Congress candidates. The number of votes polled by each of the contesting parties was as follows:—

Name of the party	Rohtak Constituency		Jhajjar/Rewari Constituency	
	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the constituency	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the constituency
Indian National Congress	1,08,148	42.7	1,02,435	41.6
Zamindara Party	81,776	32.3	98,500	40.0
Socialist Party	—	—	28,596	11.6
Independents	63,264	25.0	16,690	6.8
Total	2,53,188		2,46,221	

1. *Report on the First General Legislative Elections in the Punjab, 1951-52*, p. 1.

**Punjab Vidhan Sabha.**—The Rohtak district was split up into 9 constituencies consisting of 11 seats. Rai, Sonapat, Ganaur, Kalanaur, Bahadurgarh, Sampla and Rohtak City were single-member constituencies while Gohana and Jhajjar were double-member constituencies. The details of the constituencies along with the number of votes polled by the candidates are given in Table L of Appendix. Bahadurgarh and Sampla each returned the Zamindara<sup>1</sup> candidate and the remaining 9 seats were captured by the Congress. The number of valid votes polled by each of the contesting parties given below shows that the percentage of votes polled in the district by Congress and independent candidates conformed to the percentage polled in the whole of the State — only the Zamindara Party polled 32·7 per cent votes as against the percentage of 7 achieved in the State from which it appeared that it was strong locally:

Name of the party	Number of valid votes polled	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the district	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the (then Punjab) State
Indian National Congress	1,86,487	36.5	Nearly 37
Zamindara Party	1,67,152	32.7	Over 7
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	13,308	2.6	Nearly 6
Socialist Party	12,966	2.5	Over 4
Independents	1,31,341	25.7	Nearly 24
Total	5,11,254		

**Punjab Legislative Council.**—Under section 10 read with the third schedule of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, the allocation of 40 seats in the Punjab Legislative Council was made as follows:—

- (1) 13 seats to be filled by election by the members of the Legislative Assembly.

1. The party has since become extinct.



- (2) 13 seats to be filled by election by the Local Authorities' constituencies.
- (3) 3 seats to be filled by election by the Graduates' constituency.
- (4) 3 seats to be filled by election by the Teachers' constituency.
- (5) 8 seats to be filled by nomination by the Governor.

The district was able to gain three representatives to the Council. One candidate was elected from village Lowa Kalan, tahsil Jhajjar, from the Teachers' constituency and another from Rohtak City was elected from Gurgaon-cum-Rohtak-cum-Hissar-cum-Simla (Local Authorities) constituency. One member from Sonapat was nominated to the Council by the Governor.

### Second General Elections, 1957

"...While the conduct of the first general elections in 1951-52 was a task of unusual magnitude and complexity (and was undertaken with great credit), the general elections in 1957 were attended in some respects with even greater difficulty and raised even more serious problems. With the merger of erstwhile Pepsu and Punjab, the area and the electorate involved were much larger, while the delimitation of constituencies was effected only a few weeks before the elections leaving the minimum of time for the extensive arrangements that were necessary. Along with this, the total period for the poll in the State was reduced appreciably and at the same time polling in each Assembly constituency was completed in only one day or, in a very few cases, in two days instead of being spread over a number of days as in 1951-52. The counting of votes was also taken up in each constituency as soon as poll there had been completed instead of after polling in the entire State had been completed. For instance, results in 91 Assembly constituencies out of 120 were declared the day following the day of the Poll."<sup>1</sup>

**Lok Sabha.**—As in the First General Elections, there were 2 constituencies for Lok Sabha, viz. Rohtak and Jhajjar; the former included a part of Jind tahsil of the Sangrur district (now Jind district) while the latter that of the Gurgaon district. The details of the constituencies and the valid votes polled are given in Table LI of Appendix.<sup>2</sup> A Congress candidate was elected from Rohtak

1. *Report on General Elections in Punjab, 1957*, p. (i).

2. The Rohtak district had the distinction of the highest poll, i.e. 69 per cent in the then Punjab State. The average for the entire State was 53.76 per cent.

constituency and a Communist from Jhajjar. The number of valid votes polled by each of the contesting parties is given below :

Name of the Party	Rohtak Constituency		Jhajjar Constituency	
	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the constituency	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the constituency
Indian National Congress	1,04,690	38.3	1,21,658	45.0
Communist Party of India	—	—	1,48,979	55.0
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	46,144	16.8	—	—
All-India Scheduled Castes Federation	29,203	10.7	—	—
Independents	93,661	34.2	—	—
Total	2,73,698		2,70,637	

**Punjab Vidhan Sabha.**—As in the First General Elections, there were 9 constituencies comprising 11 seats. The details of the constituencies along with the number of valid votes polled by the candidates are given in Table LII of Appendix. Of the 7 single-member constituencies, Ganaur, Sonapat, Kalanaur and Bahadurgarh, returned the Congress candidates, Rohtak and Rai returned the Jan Sangh and Communist candidate respectively, while Sampla returned an independent candidate. The two-member constituency of Gohana returned 2 independents, one of them a Scheduled Caste. The other two-member constituency of Jhajjar returned one Congress and one Communist (reserved seat). The number



of valid votes polled by each of the contesting parties was as below :

Name of the party	Number of valid votes polled	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the district	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the (then Punjab) State
Indian National Congress	2,23,459	39.5	47.5
Communist Party of India	92,215	16.3	13.6
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	28,054	5.0	8.6
All-India Scheduled Castes Federation	6,048	1.0	5.4
Independents	2,15,571	38.1	23.2
Total	5,65,347		

### Third General Elections, 1962

To quote the official report, "The Third General Elections in 1962 were conducted peacefully and completed strictly in accordance with schedule.

"The entire poll was conducted throughout the State (Punjab), except Kulu and Seraj, on a single day on February 24th. Kulu and Seraj went to poll towards the end of April as some parts were snow-bound and not accessible during February. The Punjab is the only State in India which completed the poll on a single day both for the Parliamentary and Assembly elections.

"Because of a single day poll, a very large army of officials had to be given thorough training to enable them to do their job efficiently. Nearly 70,000 were put on election duty and in addition Police and Home Guards numbering nearly 40,000 were detailed for duty at the polling stations and in the illaqa for the maintenance of law and order."

"The entire campaign was well organized and carefully thought out in every detail. As a result, the expenditure incurred on elections

this time has been comparatively much smaller to the extent of over rupees ten lacs, thus reducing the amount per voter from 27 nP. to 13 nP. Over nine lacs of rupees have been saved under the heads 'Transport' and 'Travelling and Daily Allowance' alone.

"The poll this time was held under the marking method and the old balloting system was retained for Kulu and Seraj only. Printing of the ballot papers, which was done at the Government Printing Press, Chandigarh, entailed a huge job of great responsibility. Over two crores of ballot papers had to be printed within a short period of about ten days."<sup>1</sup>

**Lok Sabha.**—As in the previous elections, there were 2 constituencies, viz. Rohtak and Jhajjar, for the Lok Sabha. The details of these Parliamentary constituencies are given in Table LIII of Appendix. The Jan Sangh and the Haryana Lok Samiti candidates were returned from Rohtak and Jhajjar constituencies respectively. The valid votes polled by each of the contesting parties were as below :<sup>2</sup>

Name of the party	Rohtak Constituency		Jhajjar Constituency	
	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the constituency	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the constituency
Indian National Congress	1,35,511	40.1	1,11,005	31.9
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	7,55,618	46.1	17,115	4.9
Haryana Lok Samiti	—	—	1,18,667	34.2
Republican	—	—	20,655	5.9
Bhartiya Pragatisheel	—	—	6,929	1.9
Independents	46,464	13.8	73,555	21.2
Total	3,37,593		3,47,926	

1. *Report on General Elections in Punjab, 1962*, p. (i).

2. *Ibid* p. 59.



**Punjab Vidhan Sabha.**—Following the splitting up of all double-member constituencies in the country by the Election Commission, the two double-member constituencies of Gohana and Jhajjar were also split up. Consequently Maham constituency (reserved) was created out of Gohana and Salhawas constituency (reserved) out of Jhajjar. Thus there were 11 constituencies in all. The constituencies with their extent, the number of electors who voted, the number of contesting candidates, and their party affiliations and the number of votes polled by the candidates are given in Table LIV of Appendix. Each of the 3 constituencies, Rai, Bahadurgarh, Kalanaur, Jhajjar and Salhawas, returned the Congress candidate; each of the 3 constituencies, Sampla, Gohana and Maham, returned the Haryana Lok Samiti candidate; Sonapat and Rohtak each returned the Jan Sangh candidate, while Ganaur voted for an independent candidate. The total number of votes polled by each of the contesting parties in the district was as under :<sup>1</sup>

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled in the district	Per-centage of total valid votes polled in the district	Per-centage of total valid votes polled in the (then Punjab) State
Indian National Congress	1,98,520	37.6	43.72
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	70,608	13.4	9.72
Haryana Lok Samiti	1,29,036	24.4	1.92
Communist Party of India	4,357	0.8	7.10
Haryana Front	8,613	1.6	0.12
Swatantra Party	2,952	0.6	3.87
Bhartiya Pragatisheel	7,069	1.3	0.11
Independents	1,07,034	20.3	17.06
Total	5,28,189		

1. *Report on General Elections in Punjab, 1962*, pp. 56, 68-70.

**Punjab Legislative Council.**—The Punjab Legislative Council constituencies also underwent changes, vide Delimitation of Council Constituencies (Punjab) Amendment Order, 1961. Those concerning Rohtak district were changed as below :

Name of constituency	Extent of constituency	Number of seats
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#### Graduates' Constituency

Punjab South Graduates	Bhatinda, Sangrur, Karnal, Hissar, Rohtak, Mahendragarh and Gurgaon districts	1
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#### Teachers' Constituency

Punjab South Teachers	Karnal, Hissar, Rohtak, Mahendragarh and Gurgaon districts	1
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#### Local Authorities' Constituency

Rohtak-cum-Mahendragarh Local Authorities	Rohtak and Mahendragarh districts	2
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#### Fourth General Elections, 1967.

By virtue of the Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966, Punjab was reorganized and the new State of Haryana with unicameral Legislature was born on November 1, 1966.

**Lok Sabha.**—There were as usual 2 constituencies the for Lok Sabha, viz. Rohtak and Jhajjar. The details of these Lok Sabha constituencies are given in Table LV of Appendix. The Congress candidates



were returned from both the constituencies. Details about the valid votes polled by each of the contesting parties are given below :

Name of the party	Rohtak Constituency		Jhajjar Constituency	
	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the constituency	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the constituency
Indian National Congress	1,76,258	50.26	2,09,492	58.79
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1,20,662	34.41	17,206	4.83
Socialist Party	6,803	1.94	9,038	2.54
Communist Party of India	—	—	27,467	7.71
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	—	—	8,899	2.50
Independents	46,977	13.39	84,185	23.63
Total	3,50,700		3,56,287	

**Haryana Vidhan Sabha.**—There were 15 constituencies in all. Their details, e.g. the number of electors who voted, the number of contesting candidates and their party affiliations and the number of votes polled by the candidates, are given in Table LVI of Appendix. The extent of these constituencies was fixed as follows :—

Serial number and name	Extent
31 Maham	Maham k.c. <sup>1</sup> in Gohana tahsil
32 Baroda (S.C.) <sup>2</sup>	Baroda k.c. and Mundlana k.c. (excluding p.c.) <sup>3</sup> Ganwri, Khanpur Kalan (Nos. 1 and 2), Sargthal, Kasandhi, Samri (Nos. 1 and 2), and Chirana in Gohana tahsil.

1. k.c. stands for kanungo circle.

2. (S.C.) means that the seat is reserved for the Scheduled Castes.

3. p.c. stands for patwar circle.

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Serial number and name	Extent
33 Gohana	Gohana k.c. and p.c.'s Ganwri, Khanpur Kalan (Nos. 1 and 2), Sargthal, Kasandhi, Samri (Nos. 1 and 2), and Chirana in Mundiana k.c. in Gohana tahsil.
34 Kallana	Kallana k.c. and Murthal k.c. (excluding p.c.'s Kurar Ibrahimpur, Murthal Khas, Murthal Sani, Nand Naur and Deoru) in Sonapat tahsil.
35 Sonapat	Sonapat k.c. (excluding p.c.'s Salimsar Majra, Bhatgaon Dogran, Bhatgaon Malian) p.c.'s Garhi Brahman and Bayyanpur in Rohtak k.c. in Sonapat tahsil.
36 Rai	Kheora k.c.; p.c.'s Muhammadabad, Garhibala, Mandaurah and Nahra in Rohat k.c.; p.c.'s Kurar Ibrahimpur, Murthal Khas, Murthal Sani, Nand Naur and Deoru in Murthal k.c. in Sonapat tahsil.
37 Rohat (SC)	P.c.'s Salimsar Majra, Bhatgaon Dogran, Bhatgaon Malian in Sonapat k.c.; Rohat k.c. (excluding p.c.'s Garhi Brahman, Muhammadabad, Garhibala, Bayyanpur, Mandaurah and Nahara) in Sonapat tahsil; and p.c.'s Silana, Garar, Farmana, Ridhao Bidhlan, Sehri, Khanda, Kharkhanda (Nos. 1 and 2) and Pipli in Hassangarh k.c. in Rohtak tahsil.
38 Hassangarh	P.c.'s Chullana, Kahrawar, Gandhra Atail, Bheta and Kansala in Kiloi k.c. and Hassangarh k.c. [excluding p.c.'s Silana, Garar, Farmana, Ridhao, Bidhlan, Sehri, Khanda and Kharkhanda (Nos. 1 and 2) and Pipli] in Rohtak tahsil.
39 Kiloi	P.c.'s Karautha, Maina, Samar Gopal Pur, Tatuli and Chamari in Rohtak k.c. and Kiloi k.c. (excluding p.c.'s Chullana, Kahrawar, Gandhra, Atail, Bheta and Kansala), in Rohtak tahsil.
40 Rohtak	Rohtak Municipality and p.c.'s Sunari Kalan, Rohtak (Nos. 1 and 2) in Rohtak k.c., in Rohtak tahsil.
41 Kalanaur	Rohtak k.c. [excluding Rohtak Municipality, and p.c.'s Karautha, Maina, Sunari Kalan, Samar Gopal Pur, Tatuli, Rohtak (Nos. 1 and 2) and Chamari] in Rohtak tahsil.
42 Beri	Beri k.c. and p.c. Maten in Bahadurgarh k.c., in Jhajjar tahsil.



Serial number and name	Extent
43 Salhawas (SC)	P.c.'s Bhakli, Sham Nagar alias Lula Jat, Kosli, Gugodh, Guryani, Rattan Thal, Turnbaheeri and Jaitpur in Machhrauli k.c. Subhans k.c. (excluding p.c.'s Talao, Dawla, Surahli, Kasni, Subana and Dhakia) and Nahar k.c., in Jhajjar tahsil.
44 Jhajjar	Jhajjar k.c. and Machhrauli k.c. (excluding p.c.'s Bhakli, Sham Nagar alias Lula Jat, Kosli, Gugodh, Guryani, Rattan Thal, Turnbaheeri, and Jaitpur). p.c.'s Talao, Dawla, Surahli, Kasni, Subana and Dhakia in Subana k.c., in Jhajjar tahsil.
45 Bahadurgarh	Bahadurgarh k.c. (excluding p.c. Matan), in Jhajjar tahsil.

Nine out of the above constituencies, viz. Baroda, Gohana, Kailana, Sonapat, Rai, Bahadurgarh, Salhawas, Hassangarh and Beri, returned the Congress candidates; Rohtak and Kalanaur, each returned the Jan Sang candidate, while the remaining 4 constituencies of Maham, Rohtak, Kiloj and Jhajjar, returned the independent candidates. The total number of valid votes polled by each of the contesting parties in the district was as under :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled in the district	Percentage of total valid votes polled in the district
Indian National Congress	2,38,731	40.9
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	89,713	15.4
Communist Party of India	5,559	0.96
Independents	2,50,171	42.8
Total	5,84,174	

#### Political Parties and Organizations

The Congress has been the most important party in the district during the years under review. In the First General Elections, it won 9 seats in the Vidhan Sabha, yielding only 2 seats to the Zamindara Party. It also captured both the seats for the Lok Sabha. In the Second General Elections of 1957, the Congress majority of 9 was reduced to 5 seats in the Vidhan Sabha; out of the remaining 6, one went to Jan Sangh; 2 to

Communist Party and 3 to independents. Of the 2 seats in the Lok Sabha the Congress captured one, yielding the other to Communist Party. In the Third General Elections in 1962 the Congress retained 5 seats in the Vidhan Sabha; the Haryana Lok Samiti captured 3 seats, the Jan Sangh captured 2 seats; the independents captured only one. Both the seats in the Lok Sabha were lost to the Congress, one going to Jan Sangh and the other to Haryana Lok Samiti. Before the General Elections of 1967, Haryana State had come into being and the number of constituencies in the district had been raised from 11 to 15. Out of these, 9 went to Congress, 4 to independents and 2 to Jan Sangh. The Congress was able to capture again both the lost seats in the Lok Sabha.

From the above analysis it is clear that the major political parties in the district are Congress, Jan Sangh and Communist, Haryana Lok Samiti which figured prominently in the General Elections of 1962 was completely wiped off from the scene in 1967. The Socialist and Zamindara Parties have not figured after 1952. The Scheduled Castes Federation made a weak appearance only in 1957. The Republican and Bhartiya Pragatisheel Parties which appeared on the scene in 1962 also disappeared. The Swatantra Party entered the arena in 1967 but could make no headway at all.

While on the subject of political parties, notice should be taken of independents who have been steadily fighting with varying degrees of success in all the elections for Vidhan Sabha and Lok Sabha since 1957. As the name indicates, the independents do not belong to a party nor any of the more serious independent candidates have any programme completely in common. Some candidates who are not serious from the beginning, realising their slender chances of success, soon withdraw from the elections at the slightest persuasion rather than face the prospects of forfeiting their securities. Their existence and success reflect two features. Some defect from their previous political parties on account of personal differences or differences relating to their political programmes. Others are more like free lances in the political field, who after their success, either continue to remain independent or give their support to another party. The astonishing fact that some independent candidates have been returned with a big majority is due to the situation that people, being disillusioned with tall promises of old political parties, are ready to support promising individuals in the hope that they would fight for public causes. In many cases faith in the independent



candidates proves to be a stronger factor of support than the vote-catching devices, well-worded political manifestos and platform speeches of the opposing candidates supported by the political parties.

The results of the Fourth General Elections indicate that the independents, having polled 42.8 per cent of the valid votes, next only to the Congress, can become the main opposition to Congress. This was a creditable success against the background that the independents had not won a single seat in the First General Elections. They gathered force gradually in the subsequent elections by capturing 2, 1 and 4 Vidhan Sabha seats during Second, Third and Fourth General Elections respectively.

**Indian National Congress.**—The party was founded in Rohtak about 1917. It participated in all the four General Elections since Independence. The following table gives an idea of the position and the hold of the party in the district :—

	Lok Sabha		Vidhan Sabha	
	Total number of seats	Seats captured by the Congress	Total number of seats	Seats captured by the Congress
First General Elections, 1952	2	2	11	9
Second General Elections, 1957	2	1	11	5
Third General Elections, 1962	2	—	11	5
Fourth General Elections, 1967	2	2	15	9

**Communist Party of India.**—This party was established in the district in 1952. During the Second General Elections, 1957, the party returned 3 candidates, one to the Lok Sabha and 2 to the Punjab Vidhan Sabha. The Communist M.P., however, severed connection with his party and joined the Congress Party in 1961. No Communist candidate was returned to the Vidhan Sabha and the Lok Sabha in the Third and Fourth General Elections in 1962 and 1967.

**Bhartiya Jan Sangh.**—This party was formed in the district in May 1951. One seat was captured by it in the Vidhan Sabha in 1957. Two Jan Sangh candidates were returned to the Vidhan Sabha each time during the Third and Fourth General Elections. Of the two (viz. Rohtak and Jhajjar) Lok Sabha constituencies for the Third General Elections, 1962, Rohtak seat was won by a Jan Sangh candidate.

The position of different political parties represented in the legislative bodies as described above can be seen at a glance from the table given below :

Year of election	Name of the political party	Number of members elected		Total number of votes in the district	Number of valid votes polled	Percentage of column 5 to 4
		Men	Women			
1	2	3		4	5	6
Lok Sabha						
1952	Congress	2	—	7,45,959	2,10,583	28.2
1957	Congress	1	—	8,16,428	1,04,690	12.8
	Communist	1	—		1,48,979	18.2
1962	Jan Sangh	1	—	9,83,260	1,72,733	17.5
	Haryana Lok Samiti	1	—		1,18,667	12.0
1967	Congress	2	—	9,79,491	3,85,750	3.94
Vidhan Sabha						
1952	Congress	9	—	5,72,720	1,86,487	32.5
	Zamindara	2	—		1,67,152	29.2
1957	Congress	5	—	8,52,691	1,11,879	13.1
	Jan Sangh	1	—		14,544	1.7
	Communist	2	—		47,049	5.5
	Independents	3	—		66,515	7.8
1962	Congress	5	—	7,59,026	1,98,520	26.1
	Jan Sangh	2	—		70,608	9.3
	Haryana Lok Samiti	3	—		1,29,036	17.0
	Independents	1	—		1,07,034	14.1
1967	Congress	9	—	8,10,540	2,38,731	29.4
	Jan Sangh	2	—		89,713	11.0
	Independents	4	—		2,50,171	30.9



### Newspapers and Periodicals

No newspaper or periodical was published in the district during the 19th century. It is stated that one, called Kohinoor, was started in 1880 by a resident of Jhajjar. Another paper, Bharat Partap, was started by Bishambar Dayal in the early 20th century. Two papers, Jat Gazette and Haryana Tilak, which have, however, played some part in the growth of journalism in the district need special mention.

**Jat Gazette.**—A local Urdu weekly, it was started at Rohtak in 1916. It was an organ of the Zamindara League and enjoyed patronage of the Unionist Party. Its circulation in the Rohtak district was the highest when the Unionist Party was in power in the Punjab. A rich Jat of Matan Hail village (Jhajjar tahsil) gave monetary help to this paper and for some time it was sent to villagers free of cost. The paper espouses the cause of rural population, particularly the Jats. Its circulation in 1965 was 1,900 copies.

**Haryana Tilak.**—It was started by Shri Ram Sharma at Rohtak as an Urdu weekly on March 18, 1923, with the main object of supporting the cause of Haryana people and the Congress and to create national consciousness. Its publication was stopped during the political upheaval under the orders of the Government in 1930, 1932 and 1942. For sometime in 1939, when the Unionist Government disallowed its publication, it was published from Uttar Pradesh. The paper continued as a weekly till 1954, when it began to appear twice a week. In 1958 it was published daily but in 1960 it first became a tri-weekly and then in the middle of 1962 it again became a weekly, published on every Friday. Its circulation in 1965 was 1,000 copies. Hindi Haryana Tilak was started as weekly paper in September 1961. It is published on every Tuesday and its circulation in 1965 was 500 copies.

A large number of periodicals in different languages are published in the district, but their circulation is small. Of the 47 such local publications, 15 are published in Urdu, 14 in Hindi, 2 in English and the remaining ones are either bilingual or multi-lingual. All the weeklies except Bharat Tek, which is bilingual, are published either in Hindi or in Urdu. The fortnightlies and the monthlies are also predominantly in Hindi and Urdu. The multi-lingual group of publications

is constituted mostly by school and college magazines which are mostly half yearly or annual publications.

The publication of some of these is irregular and this naturally affects their circulation. Many a periodical voicing a local party or group objectives has a short-lived existence. Some financed by rich landlords of a particular local area boost up a particular individual, community or party for political purposes. Some details about the local publications are given in Table LVII of Appendix.

There is no local paper which provides a sort of public forum for the free and unbiased expression of views or which undertakes to impart political education to its readers by discussing current socio-economic and political issues facing them. The periodicals which are sponsored by caste groups and other vested interests only present news and views from their own angle. The intelligentsia have, therefore, to depend upon papers and periodicals published outside the district. The educated class favours the English dailies. Most older people depend for their news fare on Urdu dailies though the younger generation, not knowing Urdu, depends on Hindi dailies. These periodicals also feed their readers with political reviews and comments in addition to general reading matter like short stories, biographies and poems. Particulars about the dailies and periodicals published outside the district and finding circulation in the district, given in Table LVIII of Appendix, illustrate the position indicated.

### VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

There are several social service organizations, which function on a voluntary basis with the support of the Government and the public at large. A detailed account of the more important ones is given below:

**Infirmary (Mahila Ashram), Rohtak.**—Situated in the southern part of the town on Delhi-Rohtak road, the Infirmary is run by the State Social Welfare Department. It caters to the needs of displaced old persons, both males and females and their dependents.

Originally it was established as Mahila Ashram in 1950 to provide shelter to the unattached displaced women and their children from West Pakistan. The Ashram offered a number of facilities to its inmates.<sup>1</sup> Later in 1964 when Central Infirmary, Rewari, shifted to

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1. Also see pp. 135-36 of Chapter on 'Rehabilitation'.



Rohtak and was merged with Mahila Ashram, it was renamed as Infirmary (Mahila Ashram), Rohtak.

**District Council for Child Welfare, Rohtak.**—The Council, affiliated to the Punjab and Haryana State Council for Child Welfare, was established in the district in 1952. It maintains 4 play centres in Rohtak town and 27 in the rural areas. The centres in Rohtak town are managed by part-time workers while those in the villages are looked after by the local *panchayats*. Swings, chutes and see-saws have been provided in most of the centres. Facilities of indoor games are also available in urban centres. There are children's libraries near the centres in Rohtak located in (i) Model Town, (ii) Gandhinagar and (iii) Aryanagar. A *balwadi* school in Balmiki Mohalla, where milk is supplied free to all the children, is also being run by the Council for the benefit of Harijans. The Council, in co-operation with the Education Department, celebrates the Children's Day on the 14th November when processions of children are taken out, sports competitions are held, and a number of other functions like variety shows are arranged. Selected students from different schools in the district are sent to a holiday camp at some hill station whenever the Council has funds to spare for this purpose. The main source of its income is from the sale-proceeds of flower tokens sold in connection with the Children's Day celebration. Membership fee and share from the District Relief Fund also add to its income. The income and expenditure of the Council for the years 1961-62 to 1966-67 is given below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1961-62	8,009	6,610
1962-63	8,257	8,471
1963-64	5,085	4,607
1964-65	4,794	4,366
1965-66	4,613	4,950
1966-67	6,821	5,659

**The Red Cross Society, Rohtak.**—Red Cross is an international organization embodying the ideal of help to the needy and is free from religious, sectarian or political affiliations. Its activities are directed mainly towards the improvement of health, prevention of disease and mitigation of suffering.

The executive committee of the Society in the district consists of 24 members (12 officials and 12 non-officials) with the Deputy Commissioner as Chairman. The subscription of different categories of members is : life vice-president, Rs. 10,000; patron, Rs. 5,000; vice-patron, Rs. 1,000; life member, Rs. 150; annual member, Rs. 12; and annual associate Rs. 1 to Rs. 11. The Society has more than 400 life members and life associates besides 350 annual members and 5,600 annual associates. The average annual income of the Society, excluding grants-in-aid, is about Rs. 80,000. The figures of income and expenditure for the years 1961—67 are given below:

Year	Income (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)
1961	1,05,390	1,02,455
1962	80,607	82,415
1963	94,484	92,284
1964	1,19,544	1,18,068
1965	1,06,517	1,10,850
1966	1,15,633	1,18,836
1967	2,12,684	2,13,165

The Red Cross Society is running five full-fledged maternity centres under the charge of qualified Lady Health Visitors at Kalanaur, Kharak Kalan and Maham (tahsil Rohtak), Bahadurgarh and Jhajjar (tahsil Jhajjar). Eight family planning clinics have been established at Kalanaur, Sampla, Kharak Kalan and Kharkhauda (tahsil Rohtak), Jhajjar, Bahadurgarh and Badli (tahsil Jhajjar) and Gohana (tahsil Gohana) and are run by the District Family Planning Association, Rohtak. Besides, in ten villages there are *dal* centres under the charge of trained Dais.

The Society is running a Pilot Welfare Extension Centre in the slum area of Rohtak town (Bahishtipura, Chanipura and Ravidaspura).



Eight welfare centres at Kharak Kalan, Kahnaur, Lahli, Kelanga and Anwal (tahsil Rohtak), Mokhra and Kharkhara (tahsil Gohana) and Dighal (tahsil Jhajjar) were taken over by the Society in April 1961, from the Welfare Project Implementation Committee, Rohtak. The activities in these centres include maternity service, craft training, child development and adult education.

The Society is maintaining an ambulance for the carriage of patients from their homes, both in the towns and villages, to the hospital. It has made suitable arrangements throughout the district for training in first-aid and home-nursing. At Rohtak proper, a regular class is held in the office of the Society. The Society also extends help to the needy during calamities like floods, fire and epidemics. During 1960 floods, it spent more than Rs. 20,000 on relief work. Every year it spends a sum of Rs. 2,000 to 2,500 for the supply of medicines to poor patients at different hospitals. Baby shows are arranged where prizes are awarded to healthy babies. It holds seminars and camps to publicise its aims and objects and to mobilise public support.

**District Family Planning Association, Rohtak.**—This Association was formed in May 1952, with a grant of Rs. 500 from the District Red Cross Society. It is affiliated to Haryana Family Planning Association. The managing committee of the Association consists of 16 members with the Deputy Commissioner as its Chairman and the Secretary, District Red Cross Society as its Honorary Secretary. The Chief Medical Officer, Rohtak and the wife of the Deputy Commissioner are among the 10 members.

The main functions of the Association are to establish family planning clinics, arrange for vasectomy operations, hold seminars for imparting training to teachers and other workers and attract people in general towards family planning through intensive propaganda. It derives its income from membership fee, grant from the District Red Cross Society and cent per cent grant-in-aid for both urban and rural clinics from the Government of India.

The Association is running 8 family planning clinics under Lady Social Workers which were established by the Red Cross Society at Kalanaur, Sampla, Kharak Kalan and Kharkhauda (tahsil Rohtak), Jhajjar, Bahadurgarh and Badli (tahsil Jhajjar) and Gohana (tahsil Gohana). The workers visit ladies in their homes for the purpose of providing contraceptives and inserting loops (IUCD).

**Hospital Welfare Section, Rohtak.**—This Section was established in 1951 as a branch of the District Red Cross Society. It now functions independently and is affiliated to the Punjab and Haryana Hospital Welfare Section, Chandigarh. It has more than 50 members who contribute Rs. 3 each per annum.

The Section has constituted 5 groups of 5 ladies each, who visit local hospitals every week and render necessary help to the indoor patients. They supply them with magazines and illustrated papers. They also bring difficulties experienced by the patients to the notice of the hospital authorities. On all important festivals, the Section distributes fruit, sweets, etc., to the patients. It helps in providing all sorts of amenities and comforts such as fans, heaters, bedsheets, blankets and clothing for use in the hospitals. It also provides medicines free of cost to the poor patients. Its sources of income are membership fee, share from the District Relief Fund, variety shows, etc. The following figures show income and expenditure of the Section during 1961 to 1967:—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1961	13,651	13,543
1962	15,421	13,974
1963	5,369	4,122
1964	2,429	2,395
1965	3,284	2,856
1966	2,591	2,341
1967	5,884	4,936

**District Tuberculosis Association, Rohtak.**—The Association, a voluntary organisation, has been existing in the district since 1944. The Association has a constitution akin to the Punjab State T. B. Association to which it has been affiliated. The Deputy Commissioner, Rohtak, its *ex officio* Chairman and selected persons, both officials and non-officials are members of the executive committee. The finances of the Association are derived through grants from the State Government and local bodies and private donations.



The Association started a T.B. clinic in 1945 in the premises of Civil Hospital, Rohtak. In 1960 the clinic shifted to its own centre constructed on a 4-acre site at Gohana road within the municipal limits of Rohtak at a cost of about Rs. 3,00,000. Through the efforts of the Association equipment worth about Rs. 2,00,000 was received from UNICEF and the centre is now working as a nucleus for anti-tubercular services which are spread throughout the district under 19 T.B. sub-centres. The centre has taken up the work of District T.B. Control Programme. The aim is to provide diagnostic and treatment facilities to each and every T.B. case through general health services thereby covering the entire rural population. Anti-tubercular drugs are provided free of cost.<sup>1</sup>

**District Relief Fund Committee, Rohtak.**—This Committee administers the Relief Fund collected on voluntary basis from within the district. The Deputy Commissioner is the President, the District Development and Panchayat Officer is the Secretary and the Secretary, District Red Cross Society is one of the three members. The Committee utilises the Relief Fund in a prescribed manner which includes *inter alia* contributions to the District Red Cross Society, Hospital Welfare Section, District Tuberculosis Association, Saket Council and Chief Minister's Relief Fund, aid to the poor, destitute and needy persons, aid to the flood, famine and fire affected areas, grants to educational institutions and scholarships to poor students. The collections of the Fund amounted to Rs. 47,000 during 1961-62. No collection was made during 1963-64 and 1964-65 owing to widespread economic distress and the visitation of floods. The collection during 1965-66 was to the tune of Rs. 21,000.

**Rotary Club, Rohtak.**—The Club was inaugurated on May 11, 1960, and it received its 'Charter' on June 30, 1960. It has 39 members representing almost all professions, vocations and business. This service club is international in character. During the devastating floods of 1961, the flood contingent of the Club visited 15 marooned villages and distributed clothes, quilts, medicines and milk to the needy.

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1. The Association handed over all the moveable and immoveable assets to the State Government on January 16, 1968. This was done to provide extra facilities for teaching to the students of the Medical College, Rohtak. Now the Association provides monetary assistance to poor T.B. patients and spends money on health education towards prevention of T.B.

The Club renders financial assistance by way of scholarships and technical books to needy and poor students studying in various high schools and the medical college. It also holds annual inter-college declamation contests and music competitions open to students from the neighbouring States. Besides individual prizes, a running trophy is given to the best team.

**District Olympic Association, Rohtak.**—Though started in February 1953, as District Sports Association, it was actively organized in 1961. It is affiliated to Haryana Olympic Association. It controls amateur sports in the district and encourages various district associations by giving recognition to them and supervises their activities in order to promote the standard of sports to a higher level. The Deputy Commissioner acts as its President.

The sources of income of the Association include subscriptions/membership fee, grant from the State Government, income from *dangals*, etc. The following figures show income and expenditure of the Association from 1961-62 to 1966-67:—

Year	Income	Expenditure
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1961-62	989	3,757
1962-63	14,679	9,487
1963-64	12,194	12,707
1964-65	16,323	18,573
1965-66	11,068	12,035
1966-67	619	4,761

**Bharat Sewak Samaj, Rohtak.**—The district unit of Bharat Sewak Samaj was established at Rohtak in 1952-53. Branches have also been set up at tahsil and block levels.

Every year the organization has been holding at least two camps, one each for boy and girl students. The camps, which last for about three weeks, provide training in personal hygiene, community development programmes and civic sense. A project is also undertaken where the campers do voluntary labour (*shramdan*). In



1954 a State Convention of Bharat Sewak Samaj was held at Rohtak. During 1966-67 about one dozen family planning camps were organized by the Samaj in various parts of the district with the co-operation of the Chief Medical Officer and his staff.

**Gandhi Harijan Sewa Ashram, Rohtak.**—Gandhi Harijan Sewa Ashram was founded in 1932 at village Chhara, tahsil Jhajjar. Another branch was opened at Rohtak in 1944. The Ashram aims at educational, moral, social, political and economic uplift of Harijans. Shri Gandhi Harijan (Balak) Pathshala and a dispensary are run in the premises of the Rohtak Ashram which also provides boarding and lodging facilities to a number of college students.

**Khadi Ashram.**—Started in 1955, this institution is aided by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay, and has its head office at Panipat (district Karnal). It engages itself in the manufacture and sale of consumer goods to meet the basic needs of villagers. It provides employment by utilising the raw material produced locally. Its production centres and sale depots are situated at Shivaji Colony, Babra Bazaar, Pahari Mohalla, Civil Road and Railway Road (Rohtak town); Kahnaur, Jassia, Farmana, Basantpur, Bhalaut, Kharkhanda, Sisana and Sampla (tahsil Rohtak); Mohana, Bhatgaon, Purkhas and Murthal (tahsil Sonapat); Bhainswal Kalan, Bidhal, Butana, Baroda, Khanpur, Chandia and Madina (tahsil Gohana); Jhajjar, Beri, Dujana, Dighal, Guryani, Karauli, Khanpur, Kheri Madanpur, Badli, Dharana, Chimni, Bahadurgarh, Asauda, Dalhana and Sewana (tahsil Jhajjar), and Bahu (sub-tahsil Nahar).

Since 1960, the Ashram has been making considerable headway in the Rohtak district. During 1960-61, it purchased yarn worth Rs. 2,26,436, produced *khadi* goods valued at Rs. 3,80,020 and sales thereof amounted Rs. 4,71,150. The corresponding figures for 1966-67 were Rs. 4,44,961, Rs. 3,35,465 and Rs. 6,32,444. The return from the sale of equipment was Rs. 4,234 while Rs. 21,600 was netted through the sale of soap, oil, honey, etc.

**Samaj Kalyan Sabha, Gohana.**—It was founded in May 1957, with the sole object of promoting the welfare of women and children of the Gohana tahsil. This Sabha acquires special significance inasmuch as it is the only institution for women and children of this area. It is running a craft centre for women, *balwadi*, a primary school, a library and recreational centre, a child welfare society, a ladies club,

and a cottage industry centre. The craft centre imparts training in tailoring, embroidery, knitting, *nhwar* making, durrie weaving, etc. The object is to foster a sense of self-respect among women by making them earning members of the family.

The Sabha receives grants from the Central Social Welfare Board, the State Government and other sources. To augment its income the Sabha proposes to start a programme of village industries.

Other organisations in the field are: Haryana Desh Sewa Ashram, Rohtak, Harijan Shiksha Pracharni Sabha, Rohtak, Harijan Vidyarthi Ashram, Rohtak, Dayanand Math, Rohtak, Vedic Bhakti Ashram, Rohtak and Yog Abhyas Ashram, Rohtak, with a branch at Sonapat. The Haryana Desh Sewa Ashram was founded in 1945 under a trust. Harijan Shiksha Pracharni Sabha and Harijan Vidyarthi Ashram are engaged in looking after the welfare of the poor Harijan students. Dayanand Math and Vedic Bhakti Ashram provide free accommodation to religious preachers. Yog Abhyas Ashram, Rohtak, was started in 1952 to organize training in yogic exercises and other practices for physical and spiritual development.

Other societies, denominational in character, are also engaged in social welfare work, but their activities are confined mainly to religious or educational fields. Jain Sabha, Rohtak, for example, is running a library-cum-reading room and a dispensary.



## CHAPTER XIX

### PLACES OF INTEREST

#### **Bahadurgarh (tahsil Jhajjar)**

The town is situated in  $28^{\circ} 41'$  north latitude and  $76^{\circ} 56'$  east longitude, 18 miles west of Delhi on the Delhi-Rohtak road. According to the census of 1961, it had a population of 14,982.

The town settled by Rathi Jats was formerly known as Sharafabad. In A.D. 1755, it was given in jagir with 25 other villages by Alamgir II, the Mughal Emperor, to two Baluchas of Farrukhnagar, namely, Bahadur Khan and Taj Muhammad who built a fort and called it Bahadurgarh. After they had ruled over it for 40 years, their nephew succeeded them. The jagir was taken over by Sindhia in 1793, but not for long because in 1803 the British forces under Lord Lake defeated Sindhia and bestowed the town and its dependent villages upon Mohammad Ismael Khan, brother of the Jhajjar Nawab. Ismael Khan's family retained this estate till 1857 when it was confiscated after the Uprising of 1857 because the Nawab had sent an offering to the Emperor of Delhi and had also addressed him a letter of praise. The estate became part of the Rohtak district in 1860.

The places of historical note in this town are the tank of Bhagwan Dass; the temple of Murlī Manohar, the *Nagar Khana*, the Mahalsarai (now in ruins) and the Qila Mohalla.<sup>1</sup>

The tank of Bhagwan Dass with underground cells was constructed in 1865. It has separate ghats for men, women and cattle. The tank is scientifically built and its surplus water is removed through a channel to a *kachcha* pond nearby. The *samadhīs* of the builder and his son are located on the same site. A temple dedicated to Devi is situated near the tank.

The temple of Murlī Manohar contains five feet high idols of Radha and Krishna. It is said that these were being taken to

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1. A few old residents of the town also speak of a tank called Kanchan Johar on which site now stands a house. According to one version, the tank was named after a singer mistress of the Nawab of Bahadurgarh. The other version ascribes the name to its staircases built of glass.



*Idol of Parivrajyavatsara recovered from Khokrakol, Azhal Bahur*





*Idol of Jain Deity (male) recovered from Khokrakot, Ashraf Bohar.*



*Idol of Jain Deity (female) recovered from Khokrakot, Ashraf Bohar*

some other place. While passing through Bahadurgarh, the bulls carrying the idols stopped because the load became too heavy to carry any further. This was brought to the notice of the Nawab, who ordered a temple to be built to house the idols.

The *Naqar Khana* was the main gate of the palace of the Nawab. A Kettle-drum (*naqara*) was placed at the entrance. The residential houses of the Nawab as well as a mosque called Jama Masjid were situated within the Qila Mohalla which was once bounded on all sides by walls and gates.

The places of public utility in Bahadurgarh include a P.W.D. rest house, post and telegraph office, telephone exchange, Kamla Nehru Municipal hospital, Employees' State Insurance dispensary, maternity and child welfare centre, veterinary hospital, Government girls I.B.T. centre, Government industrial school for girls and 4 high/higher secondary schools (2 for boys and 2 for girls).

#### Bohar or Asthal Bohar (*tahsil Rohtak*)

Bohar is situated in 28° 50' north latitude and 76° 36' east longitude, four miles to the east of Rohtak. It is a comparatively large village with a population of 7,825.

The village is known for its *math* (a monastery of *Kamphatta Jogis*)<sup>1</sup> and ancient finds of large and sculptured bricks, sculptured stone idols and some stone images found at Khokrakot. The discovery of idols of Parsvanath and male and female Jain dieties indicate that this area was under Jain influence in ancient times.

According to a legend, Pooran Bhagat son of Salbahan of Sialkot, known in Haryana as Chowrangī Nath, the disciple of Guru Gorakh Nath, came here and founded this place. The establishment of the *math* is also ascribed to him and to the same period. After being neglected for centuries, the *math* was revived in 1791 or so when Bawa Mastnath came here. Dhuin Chowrangī Nath and Kala Mahal are old buildings attached to the *math*.

The places of public utility include a post office, Shri Mastnath Ayurvedic degree college and a free hospital.

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1. They claim to be spiritual descendants of Buddha's earliest *Bhikkhus*. They represent Nath cult which originated as one of the branches of the Mahayana form of Buddhism. Guru Gorakh Nath is believed to be its founder.



**Dujana (tahsil Jhajjar)**

It lies 37 miles west of Delhi, in  $28^{\circ} 41'$  north latitude and  $76^{\circ} 37'$  east longitude. The population of the place according to the 1961 Census was 3,939.

The place is named after Durjan Shah, an ascetic who built a hut, on the present site of the village which was at that time a jungle. Subsequently, one Mohammed Khan alias Malik Jutta who had quarrelled with his brother Malik Bahram of Jhajjar, settled at this place with the permission of Durjan Shah. He reclaimed and cultivated the jungle and the population rapidly increased with the influx of other settlers.

The place was the seat of Dujana State till 1949 when it was merged with the adjoining district of Rohtak.<sup>1</sup> The palaces of Nawab Khurshid Ali Khan and a mosque may be counted as places of minor historical importance. Khurshid Palace or Zanana Mahal, one of the palaces, now houses the Government Janta College.

The places of public utility include a post and telegraph office, civil rest house, the Government Janta college (a J. B. T. institution), a civil dispensary and a high school for boys.

**Gohana (tahsil Gohana)**

It is the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name. It is situated in  $29^{\circ} 08'$  north latitude and  $76^{\circ} 42'$  east longitude, near the northern extremity of a great natural depression, extending about 50 miles southwards. It had a population of 11,076 according to the 1961 Census.

The ancient texts<sup>2</sup> mention Gavambhavana, as a place of pilgrimage which may probably refer to present day Gohana, but this matter cannot be pursued with any certainty. There are two popular versions for the origin of the name of the town. First, Gohana is composed of two words, *gao* and *hani*, the former meaning 'cow' and the latter 'loss'. It is however difficult to ascribe such a loss if it occurred, to any definitely known cause. The second version is that

1. Lord Lake was not in favour of holding territories beyond the Yamuna. After the treaty of Surji Arjungaon in 1803, Abd-us Samad Khan who was a *risaldar* was granted Dujana territories for his good services to Lord Lake. He refused the grant as being unwieldy but retained Dujana in 1811.

2. *Mahabharata, Vana Parva* (Poona Ed), Ch. 31, V. 40.

Gohana is composed of two words, *gao* and *dahana*, the latter meaning a small water course in local dialect. The cows of Taga Brahmans occupying Daryapur used to sit at the *pal* (mound) where present Gohana is situated and hence the name. The latter version appears to be more convincing.

A story is current about the original settlement. It is said that it was the site of a fort of Prithviraja Chahamana (Chauhan), ruler of Delhi and was called Daryapur, after one of his chiefs. This fort was destroyed by Shihab-ud-din Muhammad Ghuri who defeated Prithviraja. Later it was occupied by Taga Brahmans. A tank known as Rohta or Rohtas Jhil with its natural spring attracted the attention of the neighbouring chiefs. Two Rajputs, Tej Singh and Fateh Singh with the help of two traders of Butana, Dhamar Mal and Pheru Mal exterminated the Brahmans and occupied the place. Later, this place drew the attention of the Muslim rulers of Delhi, who captured these two Rajputs. One of them accepted Islam. The other refused to do so and was ordered to be executed. One of the two traders Dhamar Mal managed to survive by putting his family priest in his place. The other, Pheru Mal at first accepted Islam but later renounced the world and died as a recluse. Known popularly as Baba Pheru after his forced conversion to Islam, he lived as an ascetic in order to check further propagation of the religion. It is said that the tomb of Baba Pheru existed till recently on the village *shamlat* (common). This story is mentioned in the district record of 1861 which speaks of the town owing its existence to a Rajput named Tej Singh and a Bania named Pheru. Both of these were forcibly converted to Islam in A.D. 1238 and 1239 respectively, and allowed to settle at Gohana, which, at that time was an enclosed common used for keeping cattle and known by the name of Gow Dhana, later corrupted into Gohana.

When Ali Mardan Khan constructed the Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal it was discovered that in consequence of an error, the water of the canal could not flow beyond Gohana. The resulting floods swept away the embankments. The floods inundated the country and destroyed Lalpoora, a town of considerable fame, the ruins of which may still be seen.

Gohana has four gates; Rohtak gate, Delhi gate, Panipat gate and Hissar gate. The town has three Jain temples.

The places of public utility include a post and telegraph office, telephone exchange, canal rest house, primary health centre, veterinary



hospital, Haryana War Heroes' Memorial college, Samaj Kalyan Sabha industrial school for girls, 4 high schools (3 for boys and 1 for girls).

#### **Husaingunj alias Jahazgarh (tahsil Jhajjar)**

It is situated in 28° 38' north latitude and 76° 34' east longitude. The population of the village according to the 1961 Census was 2,256.

George Thomas built a fort at a distance of five miles from Jhajjar to overawe the towns of Jhajjar and Beri, and named it after him as Georgegarh. Later this name seems to have been corrupted to Jahazgarh. The walls of the fort and the ruins of its *burj* (tower) can still be seen. Later the fort came into the possession of the Nawab of Jhajjar and he called it Husaingunj.

The places of public utility include a post office, *panchayat samiti* rest house, veterinary hospital, and a higher secondary school for boys.

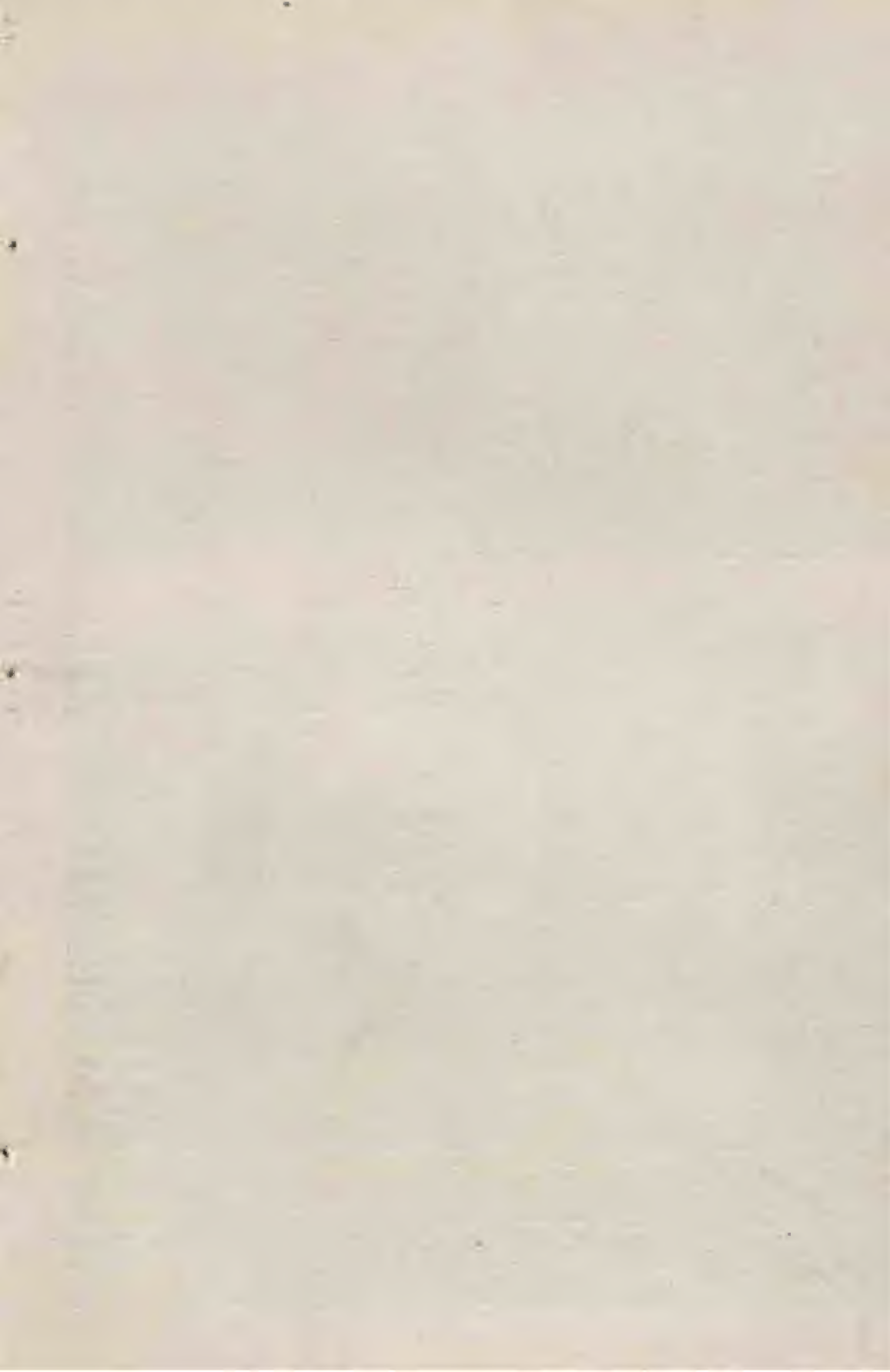
#### **Jhajjar (tahsil Jhajjar)**

It is the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name. It is situated in 28° 37' north latitude and 76° 40' east longitude. It is 21 miles south of Rohtak and 35 miles west of Delhi. The population of the town according to the 1961 Census was 14,234.

The name of the town is said to be derived from its supposed founder, one Chaju, and Chajunagar became corrupted into Jhajjar. Another derivation connects the name with a natural fountain called Jhar Naghar. A third derivation is from *Jhaajar*, a water vessel, because the surface drainage of the country for miles around runs into the town as into a sink.

The history of Jhajjar is involved in obscurity. Tradition says that the town was first destroyed by the Ghuris. The old site is 2½ miles south of the town and was called Bhagulan. It existed in the times of Firuz Shah Tughluq who had a canal dug from the Satluj to Jhajjar. The place came into some historical eminence when its Nawab, Abdul Rehman Khan defied the authority of the British and took part in the Uprising of 1857.

The places of antiquity in the town include the tomb and tank of Shah Ghazi Kamal and a group of seven large tombs of local celebrities. The tomb of Shah Ghazi Kamal is in the north of the







*A group of seven tombs at Jhajjar*



*Maham Baoli*

town. Shah Ghazi Kamal is supposed to have fought against Prithvi Raj and his head was cut off in the encounter. Besides the tomb, there is a tank with a large ghat of 17 steps flanked by 2 octagonal towers on its western side. In the southern tower, there is an inscription which records that Durgah Mull made the tank in A.D. 1626. North and west of the tank are a mosque, a *baradari* (a summer house with several indoors), and a wall. All of these are now in ruins.

The group of seven tombs is in the eastern part of the town on the Delhi road. This elegant group of tombs presents an imposing appearance. Some of these have a mosque and an *idgah* around them; others have cupolas supported on pillars and still others have heavy domes supported on walls. The men buried here were local celebrities. Besides, there are tombs of minor importance which include the tombs of Ghaibi Pir, Zahar Pir and Naugaza. A mosque, a resting place, a well and a tank surround the tomb of Naugaza.

The places of public utility in this town include a post and telegraph office, telephone exchange, civil rest house, civil dispensary, maternity and child welfare centre, a *gurukul* which has an archaeological museum attached to it, Nehru college, industrial training centre and 2 high/higher secondary schools (1 for boys and 1 for girls).

#### **Maham (tahsil Gohana)**

The town is situated in 28° 58' north latitude and 76° 18' east longitude, 20 miles west of Rohtak on Rohtak-Hissar road. According to the census of 1961, it had a population of 9,300.

Tradition assigns the settlement of the town to the Mahabharata period when it was the site of a big fort. Later, it is said to have been re-founded by Rai Ballu, a Powar Rajput, before the reign of Prithviraja Chauhan. It is said to have been destroyed by Muhammad Ghuri. But this place of antiquity is not historically recorded before the reign of Akbar when he gave it in jagir to Shahbaz Khan, an Afghan. The place flourished under the Afghans until it was snatched away by the Rajputs under Durga Dass in the reign of Aurangzeb.

Ancient monuments in the town include a *bain* or *baoli* (well with steps leading to it) and two mosques, the Jama Masjid and the Pirzada Masjid. The *baoli* is towards the south of the town with



broad flights of 101 steps leading down to the water. It has suites of rooms near the well. An inscription on a marble slab records the fact that it was made by Sidu, a Chobdar in A.D. 1656-57. It is built of *kankar* (gravel) and sand stone. It is, however, not the oldest *baoli* of the town, having been built to replace another one which had fallen into disuse due to a change in the alignment of the Delhi-Hissar road. The old *baoli* is in the east of the town and is in ruins.

The Jama Masjid is situated in the middle of the town. The mosque was erected in A.D. 1531, in Humayun's time as seen from the inscription under the pulpit stairs. Outside, over the south arch is another inscription of the time of Aurangzeb, A.D. 1667-68, stating that the mosque was built by Khwaja Rahmat Ullah by order of the Emperor in the tenth year of his reign. But there are two Arabic inscriptions, which tend to show that a mosque existed here even before the reign of Humayun.

The Pirzada Masjid is towards the south of the Jama Masjid. It is a small mosque and one of the inscriptions tells us that it was built in the reign of Babar by Shaikh Yusuf of Hissar.

The places of public utility in this town include a post and telegraph office, P.W.D. rest house, civil dispensary, maternity and child welfare centre, veterinary hospital and a high school for boys.

#### Rohtak (tahsil Rohtak)

Rohtak is the headquarters of the Rohtak tahsil and Rohtak district. It is situated in 28° 54' north latitude and 76° 35' east longitude, on the Delhi-Ferozepur railway line, 44 miles north-west of Delhi and 150 miles south of Chandigarh. The population of the town according to the 1961 Census was 88,193.

It is identified with Rohitaka, mentioned in the *Mahabharata*. It was quite possibly the capital of Bahudhanyaka<sup>1</sup> the kingdom of the Yaudheyas. In the *Vinaya* the of Mulasarvastivadins Jivaka is represented as taking journey from Taxila in the north-west to Bhadramkara, Udumbara, Rohitaka and Mathura in the Ganga Doab. The ancient highway carried the trade of the Ganga valley to Taxila passing through Rohitaka to Sakala.<sup>2</sup>

1. The land of plenty, of whose Rohtak was a part.

2. Quoted in Motichandra's, *Geographical and Economic Studies in the Mahabharata: The Uparjana Parva*, pp. 88-89.



*Khokrakot*



*(Courtesy : National Museum, New Delhi)*

*Kushana 'Pillar Capital' decorated with carving of winged lions in a seated pose, facing opposite directions and a couple riding them, recovered recently from Khokrakot (Rohtak)*





*Dargah-e-Munawwar, Rohtak*



*Gaokarn Tonk, Rohtak*

The ruins of the ancient town are found at Khokrakot or Rohtasgarh,<sup>1</sup> a mound near the present town. Sahni holds that the town is probably as old as the Indus Valley Civilization sites.<sup>2</sup> Minor finds at Khokrakot are typical of the Indus Valley sites. Clay moulds of coins discovered here have thrown important light on the process of casting coins in ancient India. The existence of the town during the rule of the Kushanas is testified by the recent recovery of Kushana Pillar Capital decorated with carving of winged lions and riders. The Pillar Capital represents the sculptor's excellence in his professional skill. An example of a lion capital of the first-second century A.D., it resembles the lion capital in the British museum at London, famous for its inscriptions. The riders on it are similar to the riders on elephants at Karle Cave and figures at Sanchi Gateway. It is a significant example of the sculptural art of Haryana towards the beginning of the Christian era.

The coin-moulds of the later Yaudheyas of the third-fourth centuries A.D. have been discovered in large numbers here. Of the same and subsequent dates are several clay sealings. A Gupta terracotta plaque and a head of a later date have also been discovered. The town continued to flourish till the tenth century A.D., as coins of Samanta Deva, the Hindu king of Kabul have been found here.

The town is said to have been rebuilt in the time of Prithviraja. In 1828, General Mundy speaks of "the ancient and consequently ruinous town of Rohtak. The wide circuit of its dilapidated fortifications and the still elegant domes of many time-worn tanks tell melancholy tales of gone-by grandeur." At one time, the town had a wall all around with gates. Only three gates can now be seen and these too are in a dilapidated condition. The town has a number of old mosques, some of which remind us of Muslim elegant structures. Dini Mosque or Adina Masjid is the oldest among these. At the north end of this mosque is a *tah khana* (cell). Over its *mihrab* (arch) is an inscription of the time of Ala-ud-din Khalji, A.D. 1308.

There is an old and mythical tank with ghats on three sides known as Gaokarn tank. Its complex of structures includes Siva, Devi and Hanuman temples in addition to a dharmasala and a park.

1. Rohtak is said to be a corruption of Rohtasgarh, named after Raja Rohtas in whose time the city is said to have been built.

2. Birtul Sahni, *Techniques of Casting Coins in Ancient India*, 1945, p. 7.



The places of public utility in the town include a post and telegraph office, telephone exchange, P.W.D. rest house, canal rest house, Kisan rest house, Sainik rest house, railway rest house, veterinary hospital, medical college and hospital, civil hospital, civil hospital for women, police and jail hospital, school health clinic, Employees' State Insurance dispensary, family planning clinic, tuberculosis clinic and mud-hut colony dispensary. The educational institutions comprise Government college, Government college for women, Panjab University evening college, All-India Jat Heroes' Memorial college, Vaish college, Chhotu Ram college of education, Chhotu Ram polytechnic, Vaish technical institute, industrial training institute, Government industrial school, Government industrial school for girls, Janta Sudhar industrial school for girls and 16 high/higher secondary schools (9 for boys and 7 for girls).

#### **Sonepat (tahsil Sonepat)**

The town is the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name. It lies in 29° 00' north latitude and 77° 01' east longitude at a distance of 27 miles from Delhi and 32 miles from Rohtak towards the north-east. The population of this town according to the 1961 Census was 45,882.

In the *Mahabharata*, it is referred to as one of the well known five *patas*<sup>1</sup> or *prasthas* which were demanded by Yudhishtira from Duryodhana. In 1871, some 1200 hemi-drachms of Graeco-Bactrians were unearthed, which indicate it to be a town of great antiquity. The evidence of its occupation by Yaudheyas is available through the recovery of a large hoard of their coins here. In the 11th century A.D., one Dipal Har was governor of Sonepat and was defeated by Sultan Masud of Ghazni in A.D. 1037 when he marched through the Punjab in an attempt to expand his empire in Hindustan.

Among the ancient monuments, the Mosque of Adbullah Nasir-ud-din and the Tomb of Khwaja Khizr are worth mentioning. The mosque was built in A.D. 1272 in Balban's reign in the memory of a celebrated saint. The Tomb of Khwaja Khizr, a local celebrity who flourished in the reign of Ibraaim Lodi, is a fine structure of stone.

1. These included Panipat, Sonepat, Inderpat (Delhi), Bhagpat and Talpat. (Hari Ram Gupta, *Marathas and Panipat*, p. 176, f.n.).

The places of public utility in this town include a post and telegraph office, telephone exchange, P.W.D. rest house, veterinary hospital, civil hospital, Employees' State Insurance dispensary, industrial training institute and Government institute of surgical instruments technology, Chhotu Ram Arya college, Hindu college and 6 high/higher secondary schools (3 for boys and 3 for girls).

#### Places of Minor Importance

A few more places which have not been mentioned in the foregoing pages but are important for one reason or another are briefly described below :

**Banyani (tahsil Rohtak).**—The village is known for 17 Naugaza graves. Of these, there is hardly any trace now except a few stones bulging out of the ground.

**Beri (tahsil Jhajjar).**—It is known for its old temple dedicated to Bhimeshwari Devi. It is said that long ago the image of Goddess Bhimeshwari Devi was brought down from the hills and installed here.

**Kundli (tahsil Sonapat) and Shamri (tahsil Gohana).**—These are two small villages whose people revolted against the British in the Uprising of 1857. They attacked and murdered some Englishmen who passed through these villages. The British, after the Uprising, confiscated the lands of the villagers as a measure of punishment.

**Lakhan Majra (tahsil Gohana).**—It is known for its famous *gurudwara*, 'Manji Sahib, built in the memory of Guru Tegh Bahadur who stayed here on his way to Delhi.

**Mohanbari (tahsil Jhajjar).**—The excavations at this site yielded the coins of Sri-Samanta connecting the place with 10th century A.D.

**Sanghi (tahsil Rohtak).**—The place is known for Sadashiv Rao Bhau's *samadhi* on the outskirts of the village. According to a story related by the people of the village, Bhau came here after his defeat and lived in the guise of a mendicant. The story seems unreliable since Bhau Sahib, when he saw that all was lost, galloped into the thick of the battle to find a soldier's death.<sup>1</sup> The tradition of his association with Sanghi might perhaps have arisen from his cremation there or in the neighbourhood.

1. *The Cambridge History of India, Mughal Period*, 1963, p. 424.



**General**

The foregoing account of places of interest in the district shows that their local history and monuments can well be fitted into the pattern of India's history. While the antiquity of some localities goes far back into the past, the record of happening in others finds its place in the jigsaw historical picture of the medieval period. The student of Indian history therefore comes across historical evidence which is valuable, if not for constructing history, at least for illustrating and placing together the course of historical events.

## CHAPTER XX

### REHABILITATION

The Independence of India also resulted in its partition, and was followed by a mass migration of populations from the territory now comprising Pakistan, especially West Pakistan, to the Punjab and *vice versa*. Lakhs of Hindus and Sikhs moved from West Punjab to East Punjab, and almost a similar number of Muslims travelled from East Punjab and U.P. to West Pakistan. This movement was one of the most massive in history involving inevitable hardships, miseries and also tragedies. The refugees moved on foot in convoys, in buses and by rail under the protection of the Military Evacuation Organisation. In spite of official efforts to protect the migrating refugees, lawless elements, on both sides, played havoc with many convoys. Communal feelings had been aroused and accentuated, and regrettably human-beings often behaved barbarously in those days.

#### Refugee Camps

Transit camps were established at Amritsar, Gurdaspur, Jullundur, Ludhiana, Ambala, and a particularly large one at Kurukshetra with a capacity of 5 lakhs. Two camps were established at Rohtak in November 1947, with a capacity of 50,000. All available buildings, including educational institutions, were utilized for sheltering refugees and large tented colonies were also set up in addition. The maximum possible amenities were provided in these camps by way of lighting, sanitation, etc. Teachers and students assisted in the maintenance of these camps, and the latter were given certificates/degrees by the Panjab University for rendering three months' social service, without undergoing examinations. Free rations, multi-vitamin tablets, fruits and medicines were also provided which reduced mortality in the camps very substantially.

Steps were taken speedily to re-settle the rural refugees in villages, evacuated by Muslims, while urban refugees were sent to towns to pursue their normal avocations. For those unfortunate women and children, whose families had been disrupted, special homes were set up to rehabilitate them. The Mahila Ashram, Rohtak was started early in 1950 with a capacity of 1,500. The inmates were given food and clothing and a cash personal allowance. A



training-cum-production centre was established in the Ashram, where women were taught tailoring, weaving, dyeing and hand embroidery. In 1964 this camp was converted into an infirmary.

### Emigration and Immigration

No accurate figures are available to show the precise number of Muslim evacuees, but the diminution of about 1.63 lakhs in the Muslim population in the census figures of 1941 and 1951 indicates roughly the extent of their migration to Pakistan. Most of them were Afghans, Baloches, Rajputs and Sheikhs. About 1.24 lakhs of Hindus, Sikhs and others settled in Rohtak were from the districts of Jhang, Multan, Muzaffargarh, Lyallpur and other parts of Pakistan. The refugee population in Rohtak in 1951 was as under :

District of origin	Number of persons settled in rural areas					Number of persons settled in urban areas	Grand total
	Sonepat tahsil	Rohtak tahsil	Jhajjar tahsil	Gohana tahsil	Total		
Jhang	858	18,984	86	10,342	30,270	27,537	57,807
Multan	257	856	120	1,177	2,410	11,209	13,619
Muzaffargarh	11,068	620	2,167	478	14,333	14,904	29,237
Lyallpur	189	1,389	83	296	1,957	4,502	6,459
Other parts of Pakistan	1,698	1,214	428	1,141	4,481	12,042	16,523
Total					53,451	70,194	1,23,645

### RURAL REHABILITATION

To hasten the re-settlement of rural refugees living in camps, and to facilitate the sowing of *rabi* crop of 1947-48 temporary allotments of lands abandoned by Muslims, were made to groups of cultivators, who were bound by ties of kinship or friendship. This was done to maintain the homogeneity of such settlements. These temporary allotments were later converted into quasi-permanent allotments in April 1948, to encourage cultivators to improve the lands allotted to them. This was a preliminary step towards their re-settlement. Claims were invited from displaced persons, and

orally verified at tahsil-headquarters. Unfortunately, in spite of their sufferings many unscrupulous, displaced persons made exaggerated claims, and obtained excessive allotments. To defeat these tactics the Government obtained the original revenue records from Pakistan and verified the claims of the displaced persons. These also showed that there was substantial difference between the land left behind in Pakistan by the incoming displaced persons and that abandoned by Muslims in East Punjab. The latter was less. To overcome this problem the available land was converted into standard acres, and graded cuts were applied in making allotments to displaced claimants. The cuts were in proportion to the size of the claim. Bigger claimants lost more in comparison with the smaller claimants.

The quasi-permanent allotments were followed by the conferment of proprietary rights in 1955. While doing so, bogus and excessive allotments were cancelled, and only the genuine claim of each displaced person, verified from the revenue record received from Pakistan, was admitted. This resulted in the return to the evacuee pool of lakhs of acres of evacuee lands usurped by unscrupulous displaced persons.

Evacuee lands in the Rohak district were allotted to displaced persons mostly from the Jhang district and the Alipur, Leiah and Kot Adu tahsils of the Muzaffargarh district, and indigenous colonists who were forced to abandon lands in the canal irrigated areas of Lyallpur, Montgomery, Sheikhupura, Multan, Shahpur, Sind and Bahawalpur. Every effort was made to allot land of the same or similar quality as was left behind by the claimants in West Pakistan. Suburban lands or lands carrying additional valuation were allotted to claimants of higher categories.

**Garden colonies.**—As a part of the general rural re-settlement plan, garden colonies were also established to encourage fruit cultivation. Units of 10 to 20 acres each were set apart in compact blocks, and allotted to advanced farmers experienced in gardening after a corresponding cut in their other allotments. These garden colonies were organised on co-operative lines, and irrigation was provided to them from tubewells and canals. Modern facilities, like tractors, insecticides and pesticides, were provided and every endeavour was made to make them model colonies.



Three villages covering an area of 1,822 acres were allotted for garden colonies :

Village	Tahsil	Area (Acres)	Number of 20-acre units	Number of 10-acre units
Lahli	Rohtak	433	18	6
Kharkhauda	Rohtak	589	26	4
Panchi Gujran	Sonepat	800	33	9

**Agricultural loans.**—The displaced persons were given further assistance by way of agricultural loans to purchase bullocks, agricultural implements, fodder and seeds and to repair wells and houses. Without it they might not have been able to make full use of the land allotted to them. The loans advanced to them from 1947-48 to 1953-54 are as under ; these were stopped after 1953-54 :

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1947-48	87,688
1948-49	4,62,365
1949-50	2,55,920
1950-51	3,39,720
1951-52	1,29,260
1952-53	72,040
1953-54	20,625

**Rural housing.**—Rain and floods had damaged a large number of houses abandoned by Muslims in Rohtak. According to the statistics available, there were 15,080 undamaged houses, 5,427 reparable houses and 8,382 houses damaged beyond repair. Even the available

houses were unevenly distributed. In some villages they were in excess of the requirements of the allottees while in others they were inadequate or non-existent. Like land they were also allotted temporarily and later quasi-permanently. After reserving some houses for common purposes allottees were given a choice according to their seniority on the merit list, which was based on the size of their holding. The bigger allottee was given a better house and the smaller one a less favoured one. Those who could not get a house were given cash compensation instead.

### URBAN REHABILITATION

The provision of residential accommodation in urban areas was a major problem that faced Government after the Partition. All abandoned properties of Muslims were taken over as evacuee properties under the Punjab Evacuee Ordinance IV of 1947, later replaced by the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950. Houses, shops, vacant sites, *kholas* (dilapidated houses) and industrial establishments were given to displaced persons on rent to begin with. Their permanent disposal began in 1953-54. Properties valued at less than Rs. 10,000 (below Rs. 50,000 for industrial establishments) were declared allottable, but those assessed above Rs. 10,000 were sold by open auction. Properties lying vacant or in unauthorised possession were similarly auctioned.

In the urban areas of Rohtak, Sonapat, Jhajjar, Maham, Gohana, Bahadurgarh and Beri, there were 11,015 evacuee properties: 6,633 valued below Rs. 10,000, 4,221 valued above Rs. 10,000 and 161 unacquired. These became a part of the evacuee pool for compensating displaced persons with verified claims.

Allottable properties were given away as compensation against verified claims while those occupied by non-claimants were leased out to them. The claimants were allowed to make up any deficiency in their claims for allotted properties by instalments. Many of the properties valued above Rs. 10,000 were sold by 1966 or allotted to Government departments or public institutions at a negotiated reserved price.

**Housing schemes.**—The housing problem remained acute because most of the Muslim evacuees were labourers and artisans and therefore their houses were unpretentious whereas the incoming displaced persons were businessmen and shopkeepers, used to better dwellings. To meet their requirements Government established new



townships, 8-marla (cheap) housing colonies and 4-marla (cheap) tenements. The new townships accommodated the rich and upper-middle classes whereas the housing colonies and tenements helped the lower-middle and poorer sections. The houses and plots valued at Rs. 51,63,739 in the new townships and 8-marla (cheap) housing colonies were sold at a reserve price under the East Punjab Refugees Rehabilitation (Buildings and Building Sites) Act, 1948. The price was recovered as loan in 30 half-yearly instalments. Later they were allowed to adjust these loans against their verified claims. Details of houses constructed and plots laid out under various schemes is given below :

New Township, Rohtak	200 houses	10 shops	252 plots
New Township, Sonapat	200 houses	10 shops	288 plots
8-Marla (Cheap) Housing Colony, Rohtak	249 houses	—	
8-Marla (Cheap) Housing Colony, Sonapat	200 houses	17 plots	
4-Marla (Cheap) Tenement, Rohtak	134 tenements	76 sites	
4-Marla (Cheap) Tenement, Sonapat	108 tenements	—	

**Mud-hut colonies.**—Mud-hut colonies were constructed in 1951 at Sonapat and Rohtak to provide dwellings to Scheduled Castes, other Backward Classes and landless persons. Proprietary rights were transferred to the occupants in 1953. They were required to pay the cost of the land and the superstructure. Non-claimants were charged only the cost of the land and the cost of the superstructure was treated as grant.

A total of 2,726 mud-huts were constructed; 1,996 at Rohtak and 730 at Sonapat. The cost of superstructure and land varied between Rs. 255 and Rs. 275. About 128 mud-huts were utilised by the Mahila Ashram, Rohtak.

**House building and small urban loans.**—A scheme for loans and grants to middle and lower class displaced persons was introduced in February 1948, to enable urban displaced persons to re-start their business, trade or calling. Under the East Punjab Refugees Rehabilitation (Loans and Grants) Act, 1948, the loan was limited to Rs. 5,000 to an individual, Rs. 20,000 to a group of 4 or more

displaced persons and Rs. 25,000 to a co-operative society. Grants were also given to unattached women, widows and others for their re-settlement. The maximum grant to an individual was limited to Rs. 500.

**Small urban loans.**—Small urban loans were advanced to traders, shopkeepers, artisans, industrialists, students, lawyers and medical practitioners. The table below shows the loans advanced after the Partition :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1948-49	8,14,700
1949-50	4,35,750
1950-51	2,28,940
1951-52	—
1952-53	18,850
1953-54	4,260
1954-55	12,900
1955-56	24,000
1956-57	20,000

These loans were discontinued in 1956-57.

**House building loans.**—The following house building loans were advanced between 1949-50 to 1955-56 :—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1949-50	3,80,125
1950-51	1,43,375
1951-52	2,97,750
1952-53	3,97,420
1953-54	71,250
1954-55	1,10,000
1955-56	3,39,225



### Payment of Compensation

Compensation was paid to displaced persons who had abandoned immovable property in West Pakistan, after verifying their claims, under the Displaced Persons (Claims) Act, 1950. Interim compensation was sanctioned for certain categories of displaced persons who were in urgent need of relief. The interim scheme was later replaced by the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Act, 1954. Under it scaled compensation was prescribed. It gave more to smaller claimants, and less to the bigger claimants. This compensation was paid out of the compensation pool, to which the Central Government had contributed.

The rehabilitation of refugees has been completed, and only minor residuary problems remain, e.g. correction of clerical mistakes in allotments or rectification of deficiencies, if any. The Rehabilitation Department at present is heavily busy with the disposal of surplus evacuee properties purchased by the erstwhile Punjab Government from the Central Government. The properties situated in Haryana are being auctioned by the Tahsildar (Sales), specially appointed, mostly in auctions restricted to Harijans. This process also helps in the detection of usurped properties and their disposal thus bringing in some revenue to Government.

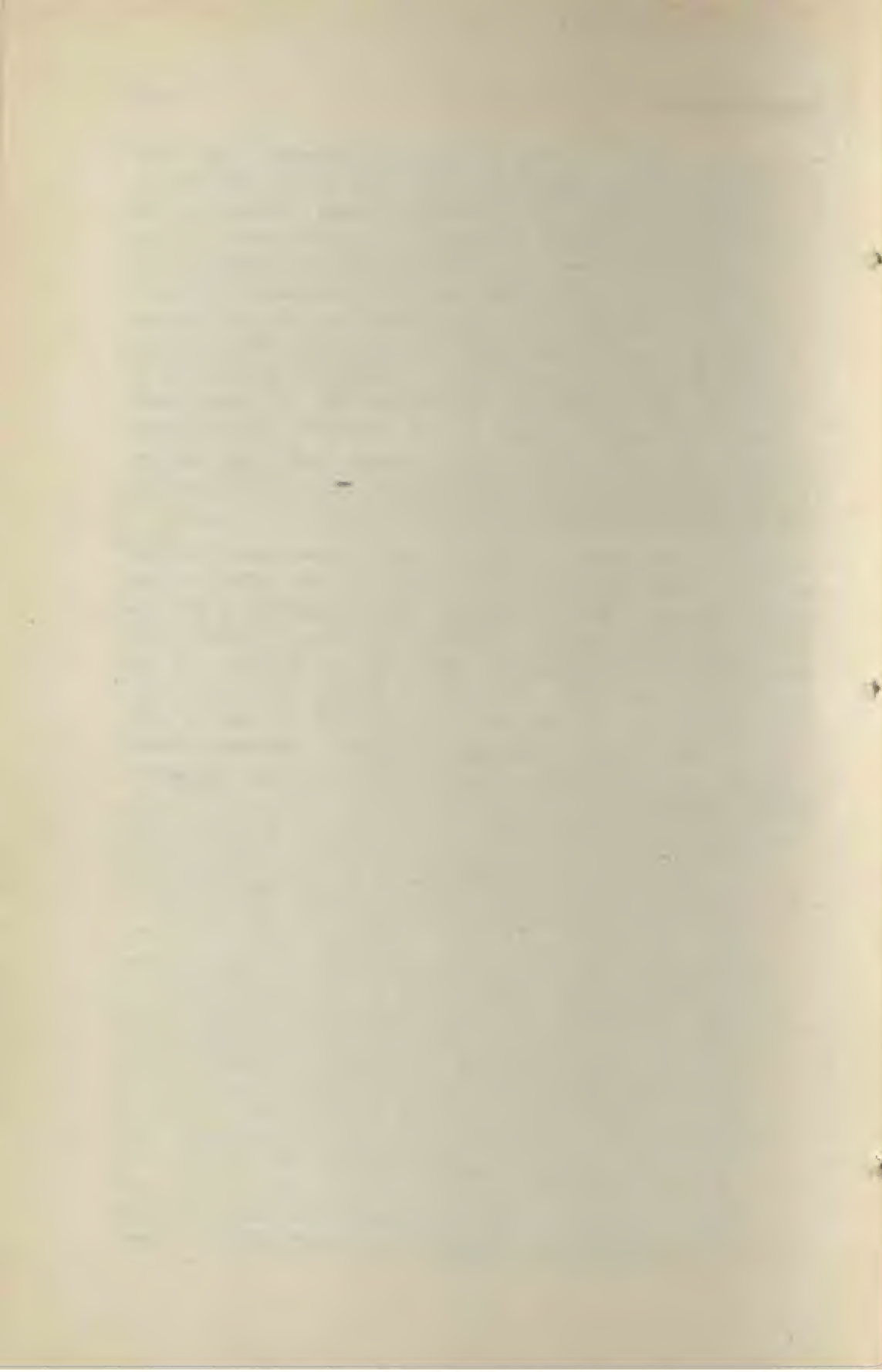
### The Impact of Refugees on the Local Population

Displaced persons had a catalytic effect on the residents of Rohtak. It is generally acknowledged that both the urban and rural sections, formerly inhabiting West Punjab, were more advanced and more prosperous than their counterparts in East Punjab. The farmers were more progressive and better off because of larger cultivations in canal colonies and superior irrigation provided by one of the most modern canal systems in India. The Agricultural College at Lyallpur taught the most up-to-date techniques known then. Likewise, the business community of West Punjab were cleverer and more cunning than the less sophisticated urban dwellers of East Punjab. With the arrival of displaced persons in Rohtak a new system and competitive spirit came into being. Well-to-do agriculturists and traders who had lost practically everything in Pakistan, had to make a fresh start. Life was hard, and there was a survival of only the fittest. However, the displaced persons soon got down to hard work and introduced their superior skills in cultivation and trade. They soon gained at the expense of their local rivals, but in the process modernised them too. Agriculture improved and East Punjab soon became a surplus State. Drab bazaars were transformed into better

establishments with a variety of wares, e.g. cosmetics, soaps, face powders, mirrors, oil, sophisticated toys, etc. Dresses and fashions also changed. Bush-shirts, trousers and pyjamas replaced the old types of shirts and *dhotis*. Locals took to *salwar* and *qamiz* (the tighter versions came later), the traditional dress of displaced women, and the women of Rohtak also emulated the displaced persons in their style of ornaments and make-up. *Purdah* became less popular and more and more women were seen in towns riding rickshaws and eating in *dhabar* and public places. The simple vegetarian diet of Rohtak was also replaced by an assortment of meat dishes, fruits and more sophisticated vegetables even in villages. In towns ice-cream, lemonade and other aerated drinks became fashionable. Bicycles, rickshaws and scooters were also introduced providing employment to displaced persons and amenities to the locals.

In short, the impact of displaced persons on the local population has been a beneficial one in a variety of ways. Hard work has replaced lethargy, and smartness has replaced sloppiness in all walks of life. Agriculture, business, transport and society generally have been improved and modernised. Men and women today of the Rohtak district are better clad, more attractive and much more sophisticated. Thus the tragedy of the Partition has had a silver lining for East Punjab in general and Rohtak in particular. It also integrated people of diverse dialects, different outlooks and almost different cultures.





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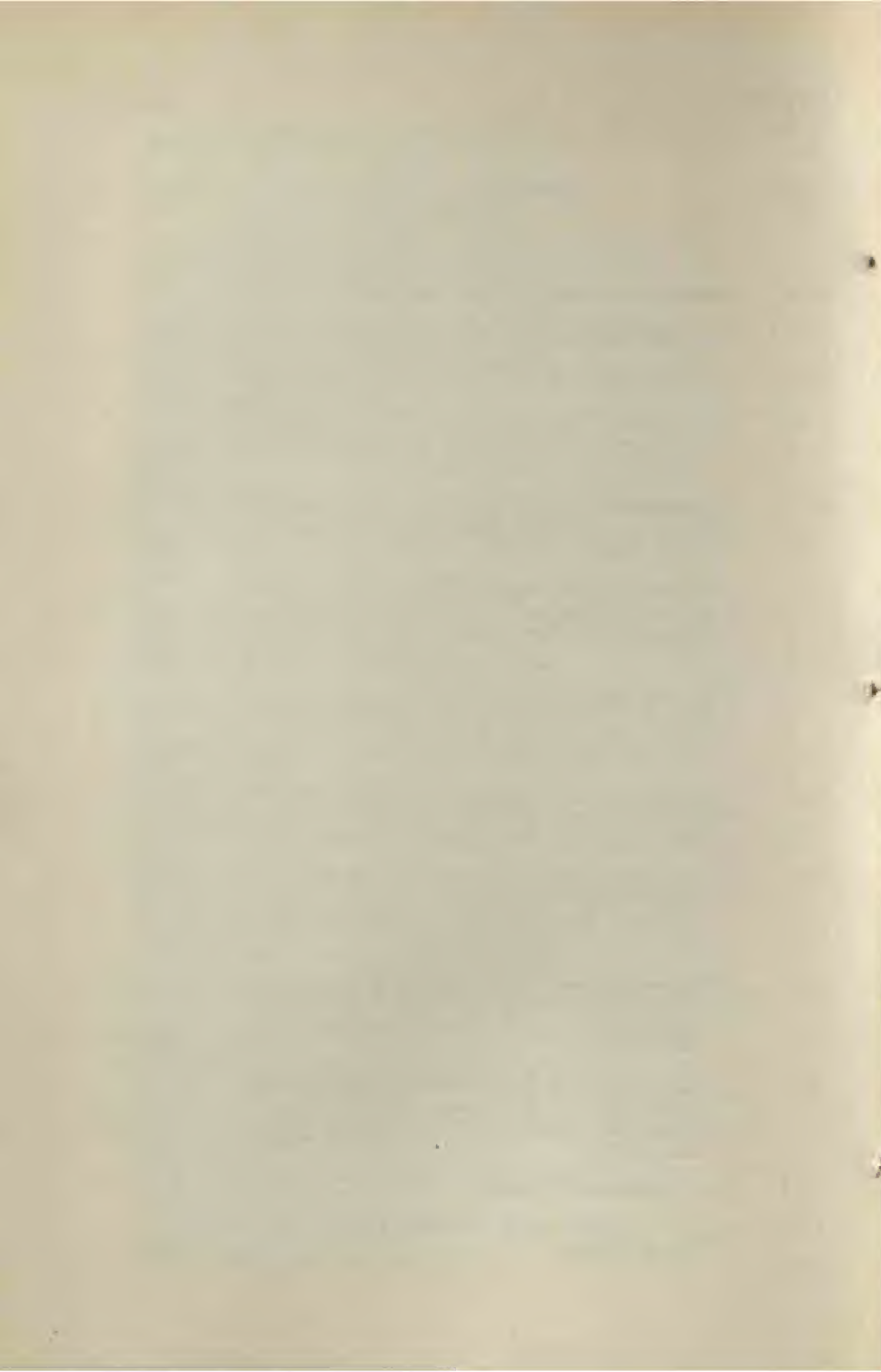


TABLE I—Normals and Extremes of Rainfall

Station	Number of years of data	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Rohatki	50 a	19.1	17.5	11.7	7.6	14.2	49.3	141.3	118.6	107.9	12.5
	b	1.7	1.4	1.2	0.8	1.3	3.2	7.4	6.6	4.3	0.6
Gohana	50 a	22.6	19.6	13.5	8.9	11.2	43.9	151.1	147.1	95.8	11.7
	b	1.8	1.6	1.1	0.8	1.2	2.7	6.9	6.5	3.8	0.5
Sampla	50 a	14.5	13.5	9.9	7.9	7.9	35.3	126.3	114.3	88.1	6.6
	b	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.6	2.1	6.0	5.3	3.1	0.3
Jhaljhar	50 a	18.0	12.9	12.9	5.3	11.7	45.7	143.9	132.8	101.1	10.7
	b	1.6	1.2	1.1	0.6	1.2	3.0	7.3	6.9	4.1	0.5
Sulhawar	50 a	9.7	9.7	6.3	4.1	10.7	31.2	89.1	68.4	71.4	6.9
	b	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.6	1.7	4.0	4.0	2.5	0.4
Beri	43 a	12.7	10.7	4.6	4.8	8.5	31.0	102.4	100.6	61.5	9.1
	b	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.6	2.1	4.9	4.8	2.2	0.6
Sonepur	50 a	20.3	15.5	11.9	6.9	12.7	48.3	157.2	134.9	105.7	11.9
	b	1.8	1.5	1.1	0.7	1.2	2.7	7.3	7.1	4.0	0.7
Rohink (district)	a	16.7	14.2	10.1	6.5	10.7	40.7	130.4	119.5	90.5	9.9
	b	1.4	1.2	0.9	0.6	1.0	2.5	6.3	5.9	3.4	0.5

(a) Normal rainfall in mm.

(b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more).



TABLE I—(concl.)

Station	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours*						
	November	December	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as per cent of normal year**	Lowest annual rainfall as per cent of normal year**	Amount (mm.)	Date
1	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Rohtak	2.3	8.1	511.9	248 (1931)	36 (1905)	484.1	Sept. 19, 1933
	0.2	0.8	29.5				
Gohana	2.3	8.9	536.6	168 (1924)	47 (1938)	259.1	Sept. 9, 1875
	0.1	0.9	27.9				
Sampla	1.5	6.3	432.3	236 (1917)	0 (1949)	259.1	Sept. 9, 1875
	0.2	0.5	21.7				
Jhajjar	2.0	6.1	502.2	199 (1933)	28 (1918)	325.1	Sept. 19, 1933
	0.2	0.5	28.2				
Sulhawa	2.0	3.8	333.3	234 (1917)	0 (1948 and 1949)	256.5	Sept. 28, 1911
	0.1	0.3	16.1				
Berl	1.3	3.8	350.8	213 (1917)	0 (1947, 48, 49)	279.4	Sept. 19, 1933
	0.1	0.3	18.3				

Sonapat	1.8	8.4	535.5	197 (1933)	18 (1947)	342.9	Sept. 9, 1875
Rohtak (district)	0.2	0.9	29.4				
	1.9	6.5	457.6	199 (1933)	38 (1938 and 1939)		
	0.2	0.6	24.5				

\*Based on all available data up to 1960.

\*\*Years given in brackets.



**TABLE II—Frequency of Annual Rainfall (1901—1950)**

Range in mm.	Number of years	Range in mm.	Number of years
101—200	4	601—700	6
201—300	4	701—800	1
301—400	12	801—900	1
401—500	11	901—1000	1
501—600	10		

TABLE III—Distribution of Population

Tahsil		Population			Percentage to total tahsil population
		Total	Males	Females	
Rohtak	Rural (126)*	3,07,507	1,62,583	1,44,924	77.7
	Urban      Rohtak	88,193	47,345	40,848	22.3
	(Total for tahsil)	3,95,700	2,09,928	1,85,772	100.0
Sonapat	Rural (228)*	2,78,444	1,47,884	1,30,560	85.8
	Urban      Sonapat	45,882	25,119	20,763	14.2
	(Total for tahsil)	3,24,326	1,73,003	1,51,323	100.0
Gohana	Rural (119)*	2,69,184	1,42,412	1,26,772	92.9
	Urban	{ Gohana	11,076	5,859	5,217
		{ Maham	9,300	4,824	4,476
	Total	20,376	10,683	9,693	7.1
	(Total for tahsil)	2,89,560	1,53,095	1,36,465	100.0
Jhajjar	Rural (288)*	3,70,749	1,94,340	1,76,409	90.2
	Urban	{ Jhajjar	14,234	7,391	6,843
		{ Bahadurgarh	14,982	8,001	6,981
		{ Beri	10,840	5,467	5,373
	Total	40,056	20,859	19,197	9.8
	(Total for tahsil)	4,10,805	2,15,199	1,95,606	100.0
Total for district :					
Rural (761)*		12,25,884	6,47,219	5,78,665	86.3
Urban (7)		1,94,507	1,04,006	90,501	13.7
Grand Total		14,20,391	7,51,225	6,69,166	100.0

\*The number given in brackets indicates inhabited villages.



TABLE IV—Net Area Irrigated

Year	Net area irrigated			Percentage of net area sown	
	by canals	by wells	Total		
(thousand acres)					
1953-54	355	104	459	40	
1954-55	371	106	477	40	
1955-56	406	112	518	44	
1956-57	396	112	508	43	
1957-58	398	113	511	43	
1958-59	398	112	510	43	
1959-60	406	121	527	46	
(thousand hectares)					
1960-61	129	30	159	34	
1961-62	213	2	215	46	
1962-63	140	3	143	31	
1963-64	157	46	203	43	
1964-65	166	29	195	43	
1965-66	163	48	211	45	
1966-67	162	45	207	43	

TABLE V—Variations in Rainfall and the Failure of Crops

Year	Variations in rainfall				Area under crops failed
	July	August	September	October	
	(inches)	(inches)	(inches)	(inches)	(acres)
1955-56	3.52	5.16	5.44	2.57	8,14,009
1956-57	12.54	3.18	0.42	2.80	2,36,551
1957-58	10.46	2.75	3.99	1.80	90,448
	(mm.)	(mm.)	(mm.)	(mm.)	
1958-59	139.7	79.1	147.4	19.1	1,44,710
1959-60	65.0	136.0	83.0	24.2	88,397
1960-61	358.6	441.0	44.0	67.0	52,196
1961-62	128.2	435.8	45.7	9.5	2,95,238
1962-63	79.3	176.0	146.0	—	1,63,413
1963-64	28.1	329.6	69.8	—	3,45,568
1964-65	406.0	140.5	110.0	—	3,63,598
1965-66	209.5	236.2	97.6	31.6	(hectares) 72,584
1966-67	103.0	345.6	116.4	0.4	..



TABLE VI—Physical and Chemical Characteristics of Loamy Soil

	Light loam per cent	Medium loam per cent	Heavy loam per cent
Chemical Characteristics			
Acid soluble Base			
Insoluble residue	37—49	32—76	33—34
Iron ( $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ )	4—17	4—71	5—60
Aluminium ( $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ )	4—16	5—90	6—80
Calcium ( $\text{CaO}$ )	0—61	0—82	1—02
Calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ )	0—11	10	0—37
Magnesium ( $\text{MgO}$ )	0—091	0—107	0—109
Phosphorus ( $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ )	0—0854	0—1037	0—1178
Potassium ( $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ )	0—63	0—89	0—96
Sodium ( $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$ )	0—48	0—35	0—64
Total Nitrogen (N)	0—151	0—048	0—051
Available Base			
Phosphorus ( $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ )	0—0277	0—0310	0—0288
Potassium ( $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ )	0—0159	0—0187	0—0209
Exchangeable			
Calcium	0—1342	0—322	0—2715
Physical Characteristics			
Character			
Clay	9—11	16—20	24—27
Silt	18—20	25—30	31—34
Fine sand	73—88	50—59	39—45
Coarse sand	—	—	—
Organic matter	1—00	1—15	1—47
Apparent density	1—34	1—42	1—34
Maximum waterholding capacity	27—50	31—87	33—84
Soil pH	7—0	to	8—0

TABLE VII—Sowing and Harvesting of *Kharif* and *Rabi* Crops

Name of crop	Time of sowing	Time of harvesting
<b>Kharif Crops</b>		
Sugarcane	Middle of February to end of March	December to end of February
Cotton	Middle of April to middle of May	End of September to middle of November
Paddy	(1) Nursery sown in June/July and transplanted in July/August (2) Direct sowing June-July	October/November October/November
Bayra	July/August	End of September to beginning of October
Jowar	June-July	End of October
Maize	July	October
Pulse (Masur, Muth, Mash)	July	October
Gwara	June-July	October-November
Chillies	Nursery sown in June and transplanted in July	Picking continues from September to December
Vegetables (Bhindi (Lady finger), Tori, Ghia (Gourd), Karela (Bitter gourd), Kaditu (Perha), Tinda (Tinda))	February to July	April to November
Melon, Watermelon	February	May to June
<b>Rabi Crops</b>		
Wheat	October to December	End of March to middle of April
Gram	October	March
Barley	October to December	End of March to first week of April
Oil-seeds (Sarson, Turamira or Tira)	September to October	March
Toria	August to middle of September	December
Bersent	September/October	December to May
Methe	November/December	February to March
Vegetables (Cauliflower, Peas, Carrot, Turnip, Radish, Methi, Palak)	August to October	October to February
Masur	November/December	March/April
Tobacco	Nursery sown in December and January and transplanted in February and March	May



TABLE VIII—Area under Principal Crops

(Thousands hectares)

Crops	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67
<b>Foodgrains</b>						
Rice	5	6	4	7	7	7
Jowar	98	104	102	108	86	91
Bajra	104	97	91	97	75	96
Maize	5	5	4	4	5	4
Wheat	124	122	140	144	153	161
Barley	13	11	7	9	13	19
Gram	171	205	184	215	156	190
<b>Pulses</b>						
Mash	0.04	(a)	0.20	0.30	0.07	0.08
Mung	0.24	0.20	0.40	0.36	0.17	0.29
Moong	1.25	1.27	1.80	1.60	1.56	1.34
<b>Oil-seeds</b>						
Groundnut	—	—	—	—	0.05	(a)
Rape and Mustard	13	13	13	9	12	14
Sesamum (Til)	0.12	0.08	—	0.10	0.05	0.14
Linseed	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Others</b>						
Sugarcane	49	43	38	50	61	49
Potatoes	0.08	0.08	0.20	0.30	0.16	0.36
Cotton (American)	6	6	12	6	5	4
Cotton (Desi)	7	8	9	9	11	11

(a) Less than 5 hectares

TABLE IX—Yield per Hectare of Principal Crops

(kilograms)

Crops	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67
<b>Foodgrains</b>						
Rice (husked)	1,254	1,194	1,405	1,411	1,000	1,143
Jowar	134	169	216	157	130	209
Bajra	249	387	386	353	369	432
Maize	837	1,141	1,004	1,139	1,000	1,000
Wheat	1,390	1,357	1,390	1,298	1,550	1,501
Barley	810	673	907	1,125	857	910
Gram	767	571	603	717	591	542
<b>Oil-seeds</b>						
Groundnut	—	—	—	—	1,069	1,000
<b>Others</b>						
Sugarcane (in terms of gur)	3,662	4,098	5,328	5,283	4,724	3,520
Potatoes	16,319	13,820	14,281	13,985	13,000	12,000
Cotton (American) Lint	207	214	243	223	199	213
Cotton (Desi) Lint	197	212	244	211	199	212



TABLE X—Production of Principal Crops

(thousand metric tonnes)

Crops	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67
<b>Foodgrains</b>						
Rice (husked)	7	7	5	10	7	8
Jowar	13	17	22	17	11	19
Bajra	26	38	35	34	27	41
Maize	4	5	4	5	3	4
Wheat	173	190	194	187	237	242
Barley	10	7	6	10	11	17
Gram	131	118	111	154	92	103
<b>Pulses</b>						
Mash	—	—	0.10	0.10	0.03	—
Moong	0.10	0.10	0.20	0.10	0.70	0.10
Musoor	0.80	0.80	1.10	0.60	0.60	0.60
<b>Oil-seeds</b>						
Groundnut	—	—	—	—	0.03	—
Rape and Mustard	6.6	6.5	9.4	3.7	4.8	4.2
Sesamum (Til)	0.5	0.02	0.02	—	0.02	—
Linseed	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Others</b>						
Sugarcane (in terms of gur)	179	174	201	269	288	173
Potatoes	1.30	1.20	2.30	4.70	2.10	4.30
Cotton (American) Lint	1.24	1.32	2.83	1.44	1.00	0.88
Cotton (Desi) Lint	1.42	1.66	2.21	1.80	2.19	2.33

TABLE XI—Area under Fodder Crops

(acres)

Fodder Crops	1955-56	1961-62	1965-66
<b>Kharif Crops</b>			
<i>Jowar</i>	2,39,413	2,04,643	2,11,395
<i>Churi</i>	48,791	52,525	62,640
<i>Gwara</i>	84,985	88,570	86,240
<b>Rabi Crops</b>			
<i>Berseem</i>	1,695	1,228	3,580
<i>Methi</i>	20,408	21,570	22,680
Lucerne	47	72	95
Other fodders	8	152	290



TABLE XII—Demonstration and Seed Farms

Taluk	Location		Type of Farm	Year of establishment	Area	Crops sown for seeds
	Place	Block in which situated/serving				
Rohtak	Rohtak		Government Agricultural Demonstration Farm	1928	14 Acres) 100.00	Sugarcane, cotton, wheat, gram, <i>chaur</i> (oil) <i>berseem</i>
	Nagabas	Sampla	Seed Farm	1957	33.25	Wheat, gram, barley and <i>bolus</i>
	Kharikhaula	Kharikhaula	Seed Farm	1958	26.37	Wheat, gram, <i>halla</i> and cotton
	Samar Gopalpur	Rohtak	Seed Farm	1960	99.75	Ditto
Sonepat	Panchi Gauran	Ganao	Seed Farm	1959	24.72	Ditto
Gohana	Gugaheri	Maham	Seed Farm	1961	72.05	Ditto
Harjhar	Bir Sonarwala	Harjhar	Seed Farm	1958	26.01	Wheat, gram, barley and <i>bolus</i>

TABLE XIII—Subsidies/Loans Advanced to the Agriculturists

Particulars	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
<b>Subsidies</b>						
Sinking of percolation Wells @ Rs. 300 per well	..	21,000	18,000	18,000	—	—
Green manuring @ Rs. 2.50 per acre	..	500	60	—	—	—
Purchase of fruit plants	2,000	2,100	2,500	4,500	7,000	—
<b>Taccavi Loans</b>						
Purchase of fertilizers	2,87,984	3,17,811	12,58,072	25,29,218	20,12,004	5,18,000
Purchase of tractors	1,05,000	50,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	50,000
Purchase of sugarcane seed	1,00,000	1,00,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	—
Under the Land Improvement Loans Act XIX of 1883 (Ordinary)	15,04,000	21,500	1,000	10,02,000	3,000	32,201
Under the Agriculturists Loans Act XII of 1884 (Ordinary)	21,50,000	6,30,000	28,73,200	29,90,000	10,50,000	—
<b>Other Loans</b>						
Sinking of percolation wells	1,08,000	1,30,000	3,00,000	6,00,000	8,00,000	11,98,000
Sinking of tubewells	1,02,000	1,56,000	2,00,000	4,00,000	6,00,000	12,77,000
Installation of pumping sets	50,000	87,500	1,00,000	1,00,000	2,00,000	
Development of horticulture	20,000	9,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	..



TABLE XIV—Damage to Crops through Various Agencies

Year	Pests/Diseases	Rats	Floods	Hails	Total
	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)
1955-56 ..	38	9	5,021	4,244	9,311
1956-57 ..	35	7	—	2,002	2,044
1957-58 ..	45	6	313	5	369
1958-59 ..	22	7	19,279	3,002	22,310
1959-60 ..	40	5	22,000	2	22,047
	(metric tonnes)	(metric tonnes)	(metric tonnes)	(metric tonnes)	(metric tonnes)
1960-61 ..	40	9	65,943	—	65,992
1961-62 ..	38	11	69,085	—	69,134
1962-63 ..	41	7	1,238	—	1,288
1963-64 ..	29	8	66,671	—	66,718
1964-65 ..	45	13	78,519	—	78,577
1965-66 ..	35	10	1,835	—	1,880
1966-67 ..	39	9	12,648	—	12,696

TABLE XV—Veterinary Hospitals and Permanent Outlying Dispensaries

Tahsil	Veterinary Hospitals	Permanent Outlying Dispensaries
Rohtak	(1) Rohtak (2) Kalanaur (3) Kahnaur (4) Sampla (5) Sisana (6) Sanghi (7) Dighal	(1) Kilo Hooda (2) Khadwali
Sonepat	(8) Sonepat (9) Gannur (10) Kheora (11) Mandaura (12) Juan	(3) Aterna (4) Bega
Jhajjar	(13) Jhajjar (14) Bahadurgarh (15) Machhrauli (16) Chhara (17) Matanhei (18) Salhawass (19) Beri (20) Badli (21) Jahazgarh	(5) Sura Kihoi (6) Jharli (7) Kablana (8) Mandothi
Gohana	(22) Gohana (23) Gangana (24) Maham (25) Bhainswal (26) Madina (27) Chiri (28) Mundlana (29) Bichpari	(9) Baroda (10) Nidana



TABLE XVI—Industrial Statistics

Name of Industry	No. of units		* Production (Rs. in lakhs)				Employment		
	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66
1. Agricultural implements and machine tools ..	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2. Cycle parts ..	139	140	146	32.68	29.48	38.64	426	555	737
3. Sewing machine parts ..	8	8	4	10.84	7.76	8.13	126	133	142
4. Steel re-rolling ..	5	2	3	1.54	1.16	1.53	64	15	10
5. Water pipes fittings	1	1	2	3,183 (metric tonnes)	1,273 (metric tonnes)	1,014 (metric tonnes)	30	59	44
6. Bolts and nuts ..	—	1	1	—	2.67	5.14	—	31	23
7. Electrical goods ..	5	4	7	2.56	12.38	15.93	102	185	168
8. Scientific instruments	19	9	12	6.16	7.92	17.47	85	102	162
9. Surgical instruments and hospital wares	3	5	4	2.84	3.13	4.42	17	18	44
10. Power loom weaving (woolen, cotton and art silk) ..	4	6	7	2.53	1.54	5.30	20	44	87
11. Rubber goods ..	5	7	14	9.41	6.47	6.98	80	84	96
12. Automobile parts	6	7	9	1.93	9.66	28.07	27	84	126
	9	9	16	7.51	14.59	28.47	154	186	273

13. Plastic goods and backelites ..	23	13	11	1.62	5.52	14.17	30	60	71
14. Paints and varnishes ..	9	10	12	9.57	16.05	21.03	66	108	97
15. Typewriters ..	—	—	1	—	—	1.45	—	—	38
16. Utensils ..	—	—	1	—	—	0.41	—	—	2
17. Hosiery ..	5	4	2	4.67	3.04	1.18	28	17	7
18. Cotton ginning and pressing ..	1	1	2	5.165 (bales)	3.312 (bales)	5.307 (bales)	101	62	81
19. Sports goods ..	—	—	1	—	—	0.15	—	—	8
20. Conduit pipes ..	3	3	2	2.14	2.81	2.91	25	37	25
21. Tin containers ..	8	3	5	0.23	4.95	10.61	36	30	73
22. Enamel wares ..	1	1	1	1.16	1.35	1.01	40	30	13
23. Auto lamps ..	1	1	2	—	4.93	3.16	—	49	66
24. Glue ..	—	4	4	—	6.78	8.68	—	146	125
25. Radios, transistors, sound equipment, etc.	11	11	5	1.96	2.67	1.07	33	39	19
26. Battery and battery plates ..	1	1	1	1.20	1.05	2.17	6	5	5
27. Pens and pencils ..	1	2	2	0.68	1.55	1.71	36	47	31

\* The production is normally in terms of value (Rs. in lakhs), unless otherwise indicated.



TABLE XVI—(Contd.)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
28. Cement <i>jallies</i> ..	—	—	—	5	—	—	1.26	—	—	15
29. Saltpetre ..	8	—	8	5	8.02	7.47	10.81	69	65	44
30. Steel furniture ..	1	—	1	1	1.00	1.13	1.06	45	45	45
31. Paper bags ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	8.00	—	—	34
32. Ammunition boxes and horse shoes ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	5.97	—	—	100
33. Zinc oxide ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	0.91	—	—	4
34. Pharmaceuticals ..	1	—	2	3	2.75	2.31	4.38	9	19	32
35. Weighing scales and measures ..	2	—	2	2	0.43	0.40	1.38	54	63	40
36. Wire netting ..	—	—	2	6	—	0.99	2.96	—	10	49
37. Opticals ..	—	—	1	5	—	0.41	1.83	—	6	56
38. Pulling chains and pulling blocks ..	—	—	1	2	—	0.59	1.15	—	10	59
39. Galvanised iron buckets ..	—	—	2	4	—	0.59	2.64	—	69	79
40. Sanitary towels and toilets ..	—	—	1	1	—	0.74	1.10	—	16	20
41. Tents ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	61.57	—	—	250
42. Wooden furniture ..	—	—	—	3	—	—	1.44	—	—	22
43. Sodium silicate ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	3.99	—	—	16
44. Washing soap ..	—	—	—	6	—	—	4.86	—	—	24

45. Food processing	—	—	4	—	—	37.44	—	—	99
46. Trunks and fabricated items	—	—	25	—	—	5.16	—	—	65
47. Pottery	—	1	5	—	5.85	13.15	—	208	369
48. Saw milling and wood work	—	7	5	—	8.70	6.59	—	269	227
49. Weighing machines	—	1	1	—	3.71	3.04	—	57	85
50. Wire drawing	—	1	2	—	1.63	1.92	—	8	8
51. Glass balls and logs	—	—	1	—	—	3.20	—	—	23
52. Barbed wire	—	3	5	—	1.01	2.03	—	25	28
53. Shoes tacks	1	1	1	0.45	0.65	0.60	17	6	6
54. Solder brazing rods	—	1	1	—	0.12	1.05	—	7	7
55. Grinding wheels and other abrasives	—	1	1	—	1.15	1.22	—	24	22
56. Hydraulic door closers	—	1	1	—	0.18	0.015	—	4	4
57. Foot pumps	—	2	2	—	0.22	0.011	—	25	4
58. Safety razors	—	—	1	—	—	0.085	—	—	6
59. Railway plates	—	—	1	—	—	0.10	—	—	4



TABLE XVI—(Concl'd.)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
60. Rubber machine.,	—	—	—	1	—	—	1.79	—	—	53
61. Surfacing plates tools	—	—	1	1	—	0.50	0.47	—	15	17
62. Lead	—	—	—	1	—	—	0.14	—	—	6





TABLE XVIII—Joint Stock Banks

Name of the town	Name of the bank	Branch	Pay Office
Bahadurgarh	Punjab National Bank Ltd.	—	1
	Central Bank of India Ltd.	—	1
	State Bank of India	1	—
Beri	New Bank of India Ltd.	—	1 (Sub-office)
Gohana	State Bank of Patiala	1	—
Jhajjar	State Bank of Patiala	1	—
Maham	New Bank of India Ltd.	1	—
Rohtak	State Bank of India	1	1
	Central Bank of India Ltd.	1	—
	Punjab National Bank Ltd.	1	—
	New Bank of India Ltd.	1	—
	United Commercial Bank Ltd.	1	—
Sampla	State Bank of Patiala	1	—
Sonapat	Central Bank of India Ltd.	—	1
	Punjab National Bank Ltd.	1	—
	State Bank of India	1	—

TABLE XIX—Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies

Year ending June	Number of societies	Member- ship	Working capital	Loans advanced	Deposits
1	2	3	4	5	6
			(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1957	584	18,122	28,93,797	18,82,727	2,58,707
1958	642	25,259	51,31,928	31,51,247	1,98,252
1959	709	32,383	63,26,146	36,69,018	5,13,020
1960	805	42,869	78,08,668	43,66,229	5,97,752
1961	875	50,459	89,10,242	44,67,955	8,45,457
1962	898	54,000	1,00,70,000	52,76,000	7,56,000
1963	908	58,000	1,07,32,000	48,33,000	12,27,000
1964	937	64,000	1,25,89,000	58,47,000	8,95,000
1965	953	68,966	1,41,68,000	60,54,000	9,87,000
1966	958	72,174	1,61,59,000	86,29,000	10,37,000



**TABLE XX—Non-Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies**

Year ending June	Number of societies	Member- ship	Working capital	Loans advanced	Deposits
1	2	3	4	5	6
			(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1957	107	1,939	4,20,359	1,66,916	13,241
1958	108	2,156	4,57,686	1,43,290	14,094
1959	110	2,355	5,00,547	1,75,029	15,482
1960	104	2,322	4,42,049	1,10,635	27,681
1961	95	1,987	3,98,657	92,555	15,283
1962	101	1,987	5,36,000	4,14,000	86,000
1963	101	1,987	5,56,000	5,20,000	1,04,000
1964	99	2,697	6,87,000	8,06,000	1,99,000
1965	96	2,697	8,17,000	9,04,000	2,84,000
1966	93	2,706	8,17,000	8,29,000	2,65,000

TABLE XXI—Rohtak Central Co-operative Bank

Year ending June	Membership		Working Capital	Loans advanced	Deposits
	Co-opera- tive institutions	Indivi- duals			
1	2	3	4	5	6
			(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1957	805	205	47,09,290	24,94,283	30,30,363
1958	911	300	62,57,775	59,96,585	33,40,692
1959	985	299	83,34,562	54,35,917	37,92,449
1960	1,119	296	84,55,296	55,11,709	35,74,297
1961	1,237	296	94,95,249	66,53,706	48,48,404
1962	1,317	296	1,24,24,000	72,90,000	56,69,000
1963	1,373	288	1,26,21,000	68,16,000	50,58,000
1964	1,439	285	1,49,35,000	1,02,92,000	50,94,000
1965	1,483	279	1,67,04,000	94,17,000	66,26,000
1966	1,514	272	1,94,91,000	1,35,87,000	79,67,000



TABLE XXII—Conversion Factors

Money	1 pie	=	0.52	paisa
Length	1 pice	=	1.56	paise
	1 inch	=	2.54	centimetres
	1 foot	=	30.48	centimetres
	1 yard	=	91.44	centimetres
Area	1 mile	=	1.61	kilometres
	1 square foot	=	0.093	square metre
	1 square yard	=	0.836	square metre
	1 square mile	=	2.59	square kilometres
	1 acre	=	0.405	hectare
Volume	1 cubic foot	=	0.028	cubic metre
Capacity	1 gallon (Imperial)	=	4.55	litres
	1 seer (80 tolas)	=	0.937	litre
Weight	1 tola	=	11.66	grams
	1 chhatak	=	58.32	grams
	1 seer	=	933.10	grams
	1 maund	=	37.32	kilograms
	1 ounce	=	28.35	grams
	1 pound	=	453.59	grams
	1 hundred weight	=	50.80	kilograms
	1 ton	=	1,016.05	kilograms

**TABLE XXIII—Roads Maintained by Public Works Department  
(on 31st March, 1966)**

Name of the road	Length within the district (kilometres)		
	Total	Metalled	Unmetalled
1	2	3	4
<b>National Highways</b>			
Grand Trunk Road ..	36.53	36.53	—
Delhi-Hissar-Sulemanki Road ..	82.51	82.51	—
<b>State Highways</b>			
Bahadurgarh-Jhajjar-Dadri-Narnaul-Nizampur Road ..	50.20	50.20	—
Rohtak-Jhajjar-Rewari-Shahjahanpur Road ..	54.39	54.39	—
Meerut-Sonepat-Kharkhauda-Rohtak Road ..	69.27	64.47	4.80
Muzaffar Nagar (Sanauli)-Panipat-Gohana-Rohtak-Bhiwani-Loharu-Pilani Road ..	73.41	73.41	—
Ludhiana-Sangrur-Patiala-Jind-Rohtak Road ..	20.56	20.56	—
<b>Major District Roads</b>			
Chhuchhakwas-Kosli-Nahar-Kanina-Ateli Road ..	30.06	30.06	—
Gurgaon-Farrukhnagar-Jhajjar Road ..	21.40	21.40	—
Delhi Border-Kharkhauda Road ..	9.36	9.36	—
Jhajjar-Chhara-Sampla-Kharkhauda Road (excluding Jhajjar Chhara Section) ..	28.25	28.25	—
Sonepat-Gohana-Jind Road ..	52.00	43.24	8.76



TABLE XXIII—(Contd.)

Name of the road	Length within the district (kilometres)		
	Total	Metalled	Unmetalled
1	2	3	4
<b>Other District Roads</b>			
Northern By-Pass Rohtak ..	10.06	10.06	—
Links and approaches to G.T. Road ..	23.18	23.18	—
Links and approaches to Delhi-Hissar-Sulemanki Road ..	2.16	2.16	—
District Court Compound Road ..	0.92	0.92	—
Approach Road from Rohtak-Jhajjar-Rewari Road to Dujana ..	1.38	1.38	—
Dighal Beri-Jahazgarh Road ..	15.74	15.74	—
Najafgarh-Bahadurgarh Road ..	3.15	3.15	—
Approach Road to Sampla Railway Station from Sampla Kharkhauda Road ..	0.40	0.40	—
By-Pass Kharkhauda ..	0.49	0.49	—
Sampla-Garhi Road ..	0.80	0.80	—
Sonepat-Purkhas Road ..	14.26	14.26	—
Sonepat-Rathdhana Road ..	3.67	3.67	—
Approach Road to Sonepat Railway Station ..	0.64	0.64	—
Approach Road from Murthal-Sonepat Road to Mile No. 1 of Sonepat-Kharkhauda-Rohtak Road ..	0.64	0.64	—
Murthal-Memarpur Road ..	5.79	5.79	—
Nahra Nahri Road ..	5.12	5.12	—
Ganaur-Khubru-Shahpur Road ..	16.42	16.42	—
Approach Road to Fazalpur from Meerut-Sonepat Road ..	0.76	0.76	—
Sonepat-Gohana Road to Bhainswal ..	13.04	13.04	—
Link Road from Sonepat-Gohana Road to Sonepat ..	1.29	1.29	—

TABLE XXIII—(Concl'd.)

Name of the road	Length within the district (kilometres)		
	Total	Metalled	Unmetalled
1	2	3	4
Jassia Sanghi Road	3.22	3.22	—
Matan Hail-Bahu Road	19.00	4.83	14.17
Beri-Maham Road	22.05	22.05	—
Chhara-Bahadurgarh Road	20.76	17.14	3.62
Kosli Guryani Road	7.40	7.40	—
Nahar-Bahu Road	9.33	—	9.33
Salhawas-Khanpur Road	13.28	—	13.28
Sasroli-Kallawas Road	11.26	11.26	—
Bahu-Karauli Road	12.50	—	12.50
Jhajjar-Badli Road	18.66	10.63	8.03
Jhajjar-Kosli Road	29.70	7.44	22.26
Gohana-Lakhan Majra Road	24.86	24.86	—
Kosli Railway station to Kosli	2.08	2.08	—
Sonepat-Bhatgaon Road	11.48	3.22	8.26
Chulkana-Samalkha Road	2.00	2.00	—
Pataudi-Patauda Road	9.65	9.65	—
Dadri-Rohtak-Bhiwani Road	2.58	2.58	—
Nahar-Kanina-Ateli Road	2.93	2.93	—



TABLE XXIV—Roads maintained by Zila Parishad

Name of the road	Length within the district (Miles)			
	Total	Tarred	Kankar — metal	Kachcha
1	2	3	4	5
<b>District Roads</b>				
Jhajjar Chhara Road ..	7.00	—	7.00	—
Jhajjar Chhuchhakwas Road ..	8.00	—	—	8.00
Rohad Badli Road ..	12.00	—	—	12.00
Beri Bhiwani Road ..	11.00	—	4.00	7.00
Murthal Memarpur Road ..	1.82	1.82	—	—
Lahli Maham Road ..	11.00	—	—	11.00
Gohana Baroda Road ..	13.00	—	8.50	4.50
<b>Village Roads</b>				
Rohtak Sonapat Road upto Village Bhatgaon ..	23.00	—	—	23.00
Rohtak Khadwali Road ..	7.50	—	—	7.50
Rohtak Beri Road ..	12.50	—	—	12.50
Kharkhauda Silana Road ..	3.75	—	—	3.75
Jind Dadri Road ..	17.50	—	—	17.50
Kahnaur approach Road ..	1.00	1.00	—	—
Dighal Sampla Road ..	9.20	3.00	6.20	—
Bahadurgarh Lowa Kalan Road ..	3.25	3.25	—	—
Jhajjar Beri Road ..	8.00	—	—	8.00
Beri Chhara Road ..	8.00	—	—	8.00

TABLE XXIV—(Contd.)

Name of the road	Length within the district (Miles)			
	Total	Tarred	Kankar —metal	Kachcha
1	2	3	4	5
Jhajjar Zahdpur Road ..	7.00	—	—	7.00
Jhajjar Rohtak Road ..	1.00	—	—	1.00
Bir-Sunarwala to Rohtak Bahadurgarh Road ..	1.50	—	—	1.50
Jasaur Kheri Mandothi Road	6.00	—	—	6.00
Asanda Kharkhauda Road ..	11.30	1.30	10.00	—
Beri Baghpur Road ..	1.00	—	1.00	—
Kahnaur Chimni Road ..	3.00	—	3.00	—
Bahalgarh Dipalpur Road ..	2.30	2.30	—	—
Sonepat Larsoli Road ..	5.00	—	—	5.00
Kharkhauda Jakhauli Bhagpat Ferry Road ..	7.00	—	—	7.00
Thana Khurd Nahri Road ..	6.00	—	—	6.00
Sonepat to G.T. Road via Korar Ibrahimpur ..	4.00	—	—	4.00
Purkhas Kailana Road ..	3.73	—	—	3.73
Road in front of Veterinary Hospital Sampla ..	0.10	—	—	0.10
Gohana Jagsi Road ..	7.00	—	—	7.00
Approach Road to Kharainti ..	0.80	—	—	0.80
Maham Bhiwani Road ..	5.00	—	—	5.00



TABLE XXIV—(Concl'd.)

Name of the road	Length within the district (Miles)			
	Total	Tarred	Kankar —metal	Kachcha
1	2	3	4	5
Bahmanwas Khadwali Road ..	4.50	2.75	1.75	—
Garhi Sampla Kharar Road ..	3.75	3.75	—	—
Sonepat Ganaur Road ..	9.00	—	—	9.00
Sisana Farmana Road ..	6.25	—	6.25	—
Niwadah Dawla Road ..	4.25	—	—	4.25
Dheisra Kundli Road ..	5.00	—	—	5.00
Untlauda Farrukhnagar Road	5.00	—	—	5.00

TABLE XXV—Registration of Vehicles

Year	Buses	Public carriers	Private carriers	Motor cycles/scooters	Cars/Jeeps	Government vehicles	Motor cars/tempos	Tractors	Others	Total	
1962	..	439	931	9	239	323	5	93	872	62	2,973
1963	..	458	906	10	289	342	8	137	972	62	3,274
1964	..	480	1,117	19	355	369	15	191	1,121	62	3,729
1965	..	501	1,255	23	453	418	32	275	1,373	62	4,392



TABLE XXVI—Railway Traffic

Serial No.	Name of station	Passenger Traffic				Goods traffic			
		Monthly average traffic		Monthly average earnings		Monthly average traffic		Monthly average earnings	
		Outward (No.)	Inward (No.)	Passenger (Rs.)	Goods (Parcel) (Rs.)	Inward (Quintals)	Outward (Quintals)	Inward (Rs.)	Outward (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Ratbadhana	—	12,072	1,333	6,049	3,619	—	—	—
2.	Sohepat	—	69,456	62,773	98,773	8,344	61,847	9,630	2,38,146
3.	Saudal Kalan	—	1,06,776	56,944	47,734	—	—	—	—
4.	Ganaur	—	33,926	28,863	20,677	580	4,550	5,429	19,803
5.	Bahadurgarh	—	50,407	16,114	21,518	1,743	71,723	10,198	1,88,468
6.	Asanda	—	15,592	9,979	8,745	13	1	—	—
7.	Sampla	—	22,738	13,578	14,266	301	774	2,452	25,049
8.	Kahrawar	—	10,259	4,870	6,021	53	5	—	15
9.	Authal Bohar	—	3,634	2,682	1,528	3	—	—	—

10.	Rohitak	—	67,561	69,282	95,312	5,150	1,45,293	22,155	4,06,828	2,91,078
11.	Sumar Gopalpur	—	9,666	4,951	4,221	246	—	3 wagons	—	1,560
12.	Kharainiti	—	9,150	1,605	8,758	390	—	10 wagons	—	7,000
13.	Makroli	—	6,206	2,788	2,185	8	—	—	—	—
14.	Jasnia	—	5,966	3,855	2,881	21	—	—	—	—
15.	Bhainswan	—	2,903	1,360	1,715	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Gohana	—	9,421	7,619	8,081	300	10,323	5,541	3,222	25,545
17.	Sudhrana	—	2,383	2,130	1,852	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Koali	—	15,353	1,366	15,988	163	6,655	1	23,731	261
19.	Barfi	—	12,390	1,925	12,362	—	—	—	—	—



TABLE XXVII—Rest Houses

Place	Name	Number of suites	Name of reservation authority
1	2	3	4
<b>Jhajjar Tahsil</b>			
1. Beri ..	Civil Rest House	2	Deputy Commissioner, Rohtak
2. Chhuchhakwas ..	Ditto	3	Ditto
3. Dujana ..	Ditto	3	Ditto
4. Jhajjar ..	Ditto	1	Ditto
5. Kasni ..	Ditto	3	Ditto
6. Nahar ..	Ditto	3	Ditto
7. Patauda ..	Ditto	3	Ditto
8. Zahdpur ..	Ditto	3	Ditto
9. Dhandlan ..	Canal Rest House	2	Executive Engineer, Haryana Division, W.J.C., Rohtak
10. Dulchra ..	Ditto	2	Ditto
11. Ladain ..	Ditto	2	Ditto
12. Bahadurgarh ..	P.W.D. Rest House	2	Executive Engineer, P.W.D., (B & R), Rohtak
13. Jahaigarh ..	Panchayat Samiti Rest House	2	Chairman Panchayat Samiti, Beri
14. Salhawas ..	Ditto	2	Chairman, Panchayat Samiti, Salhawas
<b>Rohtak Tahsil</b>			
15. Baliana ..	Canal Rest House	2	Executive Engineer, Haryana Division, W.J.C., Rohtak
16. Rohtak ..	Ditto	5	Ditto

TABLE XXVII—(Contd.)

Place	Name	Number of suites	Name of reservation authority
1	2		4
17. Sampla ..	Canal Rest House	2	Executive Engineer, Haryana Division, W.J.C., Rohtak
18. Sanghi ..	Ditto	2	Ditto
19. Lahli ..	Ditto	2	Ditto
20. Nilothi ..	Ditto	2	Executive Engineer, Delhi Division, Delhi
21. Silana ..	Ditto	2	Ditto
22. Rohtak ..	P.W.D. Rest House	2	Executive Engineer, P.W.D. (B & R), Rohtak
23. Rohtak ..	Railway Rest House	3	Assistant Engineer, Northern Railway, Jind
24. Kharak Kalan	Canal Rest House	2	Executive Engineer, W.J.C. Division, Rohtak

The District Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Board also maintains a rest house at Rohtak.

#### Gohana Tahsil

25. Sargthal ..	Canal Rest House	2	Executive Engineer, Haryana Division, W.J.C., Rohtak
26. Bainsi ..	Ditto	2	Executive Engineer, W.J.C., Division, Rohtak
27. Butana ..	Ditto	3	Ditto
28. Chandi ..	Ditto	2	Ditto
29. Rithal ..	Ditto	2	Executive Engineer, Haryana Division, W.J.C., Rohtak
30. Madina ..	Ditto	2	Executive Engineer, W.J.C., Division, Rohtak
31. Rindhana ..	Ditto	2	Ditto



TABLE XXVII—(Concl'd.)

Place	Name	Number of suits	Name of reservation authority
1	2	3	4
32. Rana Kheri ..	Canal Res. House	2	Executive Engineer, W.J.C. Division, Rohtak
33. Gohana (Nagar)	Ditto	2	Executive Engineer, W.J.C., Division, Karnal
34. Chirana ..	Ditto	3	Executive Engineer, Delhi Division, Delhi
35. Maham ..	P.W.D. Rest House	2	Executive Engineer, P.W.D., (B & R), Rohtak
<b>Sonepat Tahsil</b>			
36. Juan ..	Canal Rest House	2	Executive Engineer, Delhi Division, Delhi
37. Kakroi ..	Ditto	2	Ditto
38. Sardhana ..	Ditto	3	Ditto
39. Thana Khurd	Ditto	2	Ditto
40. Rai ..	P.W.D. Rest House	2	Executive Engineer, P.W.D. (B & R), Rohtak
41. Larsoli ..	Ditto	3	Executive Engineer, P.W.D. (B & R), Karnal
42. Sonepat ..	Ditto	2	Sub-Divisional Officer, P.W.D. (B & R), Sonepat

TABLE XXVIII—Post Offices

Head Office	Sub-Office	Branch Office
Rohtak Head Office—		Bahu Akbarpur
		Bhagotipur
		Basantpur
		Chamari
		Chandi
		Chiri
		Gurnauthi
		Kharainti
		Kahrawar
		Ladhod
		Lakhan Majra
		Makroli Kalan
		Nigana
		Samar Gopalpur
		Silana
		Singlipura
		Sisana
		Tatoli
Arya Nagar, Rohtak		
Asaunda		Barahi
		Jakhanda
		Jasaur Kheri
		Kulasi
		Mandothi
		Matan
Atlas Cycles, Sonapat		
Badli		Bahmnaula
		Barsa
		Bupania
		Dadri
		Gubhana
		Kheri Jat
Bahadurgarh		Munda Khera
		Bahmoli
		Daboda Khurd
		Dulehra
		Goyla Kalan



TABLE XXVIII—(Contd.)

Head Office	Sub-Office	Branch Office
Rohtak Head Office— (contd.)		Kanodah
		Kharman
		Kundal
		Ladrawn
		Nuna Mazra (Sultanpur)
		Sankhol
		Sohari
		Sajodah
	Bahadurgarh Mandi	
	Beri	Bisahan
		Dubaldhan
		Majra
		Sewana
	Bhalsar	Asan
		Ballana
		Bakheta
		Dhamar
		Gewana
		Gorar
		Hamuyunpur
		Jasrana
		Kansala
		Kiloi
		Pakasma
		Rithal
		Rurki
	Bhatgaon	Bhadana
		Juan
		Kakroi
		Karewari
		Mahra
		Mahlana
		Mohana
		Ratangarh (Bhatgaon Dogran)
		Sitaoli
		Tajpur Tihara Khurd

TABLE XXVIII.—(Contd.)

Head Office	Sub-Office	Branch Office
Rohtak Head Office— (contd.)	Butana	Banwasa
		Baroda
		Bhawar
		Bichhpari
		Dhanana Aladadpur
		Gangana
		Gharwal
		Jaggi
		Janta High School, Butana
		Kohla
		Nizampur
		Rindhana
		Siwanamal
	Chhara	Bhadani
		Bhapraudah
		Kablana
		Khungai
		Kheri Asra
	Dighal	Barhana
		Gochhi
		Kultana
		Qabulpur
		Ritoli
		Seria
	Dujana	Birdhana
		Madana Kalan
		Mahrana
	Farmana	Anwli
		Bhainswal Kalan
		Guhna
		Gurukul Bhainswal
		Katwal
		Rewara
	Ganaur	Bajana Khurd
		Bega
		Datauli
		Garhi Rajlu
		Ghasoli



TABLE XXVIII—(Contd.)

Head Office	Sub-Office	Branch Office
Rohtak Head Office— (contd.)		Gumar Kailana Kheri Gujar Khizarpur Ahir Khubra Panchi Gujran Panchi Jatan Purkhas Rajpur Sheikhupura
	Gandhi Camp, Rohtak	Asthal Bohar Bohar Jat School, Rohtak Kheri Sadh
	Ganj Bazar, Sonapat	
	Gohana	Ahulana Bidhal Bidhal Pinana Busana Chirana Chhichhrana Dhurana Jassia Jauli Kahni Kanya Gurukul, Khanpur Kathura Khanpur Kalan Kheri Damkan Khadwali Lath Madina Mahmudpur Mahra Moi Majra Moi Hooda Mundlana Puthi Rabrah Rukhi Sanghi Saragthal Shamri Sikanderpur Majra

TABLE XXVIII—(Contd.)

Head Office	Sub-Office	Branch Office
Rohtak Head Office — (contd.)	Gohana Mandi Hassangarh	Barona
		Gurukul Matindu
		Morkheri
		Nilothi
		Pahladpur Kiroli
		Rohna
		Samchana
		Thana Kalan
	Industrial Area, Sonapat Jhajjar	Achhej
		Buzidpur Tappahaveli
		Bilochpara
		Chhuchhakwas
		Dadanpur
		Dulehra
		Gawnafson
		Gurukul Jhajjar
		Jahangirpur
		Jahazgarh
		Jondhi
		Kasni
		Khatiwas
		Khetawas
		Kheri Khumar
		Matan Hail
		Marot
		Mahmudpur Majra
		Nohru College, Jhajjar
		Palra
		Silani
		Surahiti
		Talao
	Kahnaur	Anwal
		Chimni
		Garhi Baab
		Sundana
	Kalanaur	Katesra
		Nigana
		Pilana
	Kanak Mandi, Rohtak	
	Kharkhauda	Bidhlan
		Jharot
		Khanda
		Rohat



TABLE XXVIII—(Contd.)

Head Office	Sub-Office	Branch Office
Rohtak Head Office— (contd.)	Kharak Kalan	Kalinga Khairari Sampel
	Machhrauli	Ahri Bathera Chhapar Dhakla Khudan Lohari Patauda Shamaspur-Majra Subana
	Madina	Ajaib Busana Bahlba Bainsi Bharan Farmana Gurawar Gugaheri Kharkhauda Mokhra Nidana
	Maham	Bhaini Bhairon Bhaini Chander Pal Bhaini Surjan Seman Sisar Khas
	Medical College, Rohtak	
	Model Town, Rohtak	
	Model Town, Sonapat	
	Murthal	Barauli Bhegan Dipalpur Larsoli Korar Ibrahimpur Malikpur Pipli Khera Qamshpur Sanpera Zainpur

TABLE XXVIII—(Contd.)

Head Office	Sub-Office	Branch Office
Rohtak Head Office— (contd.)	Nahri	Akbarpur Barota Halalpur Kheri Manajat Mandaura Nahra
	Partap Stadium, Rai	
	Rohtak Mandi	
	Rohtak Town	
	Sampla	Atail Chuliana Dehkora Gandhra Ismaila Kharar Lohar Heri Naya Bans Nonond Rohad
	Shivaji Colony, Rohtak	Baland Banyani Dobh Gurnauthi Karauntha Lahli Maina Patwapur Pahrawar Sunari Kalan Vaish High School, Rohtak
	Sonepat	Aterna Barwasni Fazalpur Harsana Kalan Jakhauli Kheora Lahrara Nangal Kalan Rai Rathdhana Sandal Kalan S.M. Hindu High School, Sonepat
	Sonepat Mandi	



TABLE XXVIII—(Concl'd.)

Head Office	Sub-Office	Branch Office
Rohtak Head Office— (concl'd.)	Guryani	Nangal Pathani Rattanthai Tumbaheri Tumna Dharauli
	Kosli	Bhurthala Gugodh Jhal Judi Kanharwas Kosli Railway Station Lola Ahir Sadatnagar Surahli
	Nahar	Bahu Bawah Basoha Goria Jharoda Jharli Katauli Koharad Lilodh Nayagaon Khorra
	Salhawas	Akheri Madanpur Birar Birohar Bhurawas Jharli Jhanswa Kalan Kachroli Ladain Mundaheera Neemli Shelanga Sasroli
		<div> <div>Ahulana</div> <div>Chulkana</div> <div>}</div> <div>These are attach- ed to a sub-post office in the Karnal district.</div> </div>

TABLE XXIX—Average Prices and Wages

Year	Wages				Prices	
	Skilled		Unskilled		Wheat	
	Rs. As. P.	Percentage increase or decrease over 1909 level	Rs. As. P.	Percentage increase or decrease over 1909 level	S. C. (per rupee)	Percentage increase or decrease over 1909 level
1909	.. 0 8 0	..	0 3 6	..	10 3 (average 1906—1910)	
1912	.. 0 8 0	—	0 4 0	+14	11 5 (average 1911—1915)	-10
1917	.. 0 13 0	+62	0 4 0	+14	7 7 (average 1916—1920)	+37
1921	.. ..	..	..	..	7 2	+43
1922	.. 1 8 0	+200	0 7 0	+100	4 0	+155
1923	.. ..	..	..	..	8 14	+15
1927	.. 1 4 0	+150	0 8 0	+129	7 12	+31
1931	.. ..	..	..	..	16 0	-36
1932	.. 1 0 0	+100	0 7 0	+100	14 0	-27
1937	.. 0 12 0	+50	0 4 0	+14	..	..



TABLE XXIX—(Concl'd.)

Year	Wages			Prices	
	Skilled		Un-skilled	Wheat	
	Rs. As. Ps.	Percentage increase or decrease over 1909 level	Rs. As. Ps.	Percentage increase or decrease over 1909 level	S. C. (per rupee)
1941	..	..	..	..	10 4
1943	1 13 0	+262	0 12 0	..	Rs. As. Ps. (per maund)
1950-51	2 12 9	+450	2 8 0	+243	16 0 0
1951-52	3 2 0	+525	2 11 0	+1042	14 14 0
1952-53	..	—	..	+1129	13 5 0
1953-54	3 3 0	+537	2 0 0	..	11 8 0
1954-55	3 1 0	+512	2 3 0	+814	10 0 0
1955-56	4 0 0	+700	2 0 0	+900	13 0 0
1956-57	4 0 0	+700	2 0 0	+814	13 0 0
1957-58	4 0 0	+700	2 0 0	+814	13 0 0
1958-59	4 0 0	+700	2 0 0	+814	14 0 0
1959-60	5 0 0	+900	3 0 0	+1271	14 0 0
1960-61	..	..	..	..	Rs. Paise
1961-62	..	..	..	..	14 98
					15 44

Percentage increase or decrease over 1909 level

S. C. (per rupee)

Percentage increase or decrease over 1909 level

Rs. As. Ps.

Percentage increase or decrease over 1909 level

Rs. As. Ps.

Percentage increase or decrease over 1909 level

Rs. As. Ps.

	Rs. Paise	Rs. Paise	Rs. Paise (per quintal)	
1962-63	5 00	+ 900	39 50	+ 276
1963-64	.. ..	.. ..	72 00	+ 585
1965	6 00	+ 1100	55 55	+ 429
<hr/>				
	S. : Seer			
	C. : Chhatak			
	Rs. : Rupees			
	As. : Annas			
	Ps. : Pies			



TABLE XXX—Unemployment

Category	Number of unemployed in urban areas		
	Persons	Males	Females
Total	1,014	982	32
Illiterate	79	79	—
Literate (without educational level)	118	117	1
Primary or Junior Basic	243	235	8
Matriculation or Higher Secondary	506	492	14
Technical Diploma not equal to Degree	3	2	1
Non-Technical Diploma not equal to Degree	11	7	4
University Degree or Post-Graduate Degree other than Technical Degree	49	47	2
Technical Degree or Diploma equal to Degree or Post-Graduate Degree			
(i) Engineering	—	—	—
(ii) Medicine	—	—	—
(iii) Agriculture	—	—	—
(iv) Veterinary and Dairying	—	—	—
(v) Technology	—	—	—
(vi) Teaching	3	1	2
(vii) Others	2	2	—
Number of unemployed in rural areas			
	Persons	Males	Females
Total	2,543	2,516	27
Illiterate	162	157	5
Literate (without educational level)	132	131	1
Primary or Junior Basic	843	839	4
Matriculation and above	1,406	1,389	17

(Census of India, 1961, District Census Handbook, Rohtak District, 1965, pp.186—88.)

TABLE XXXI—Working of Employment Exchanges

Year	Number of registra- tions	Number of vacancies notified	Number of applicants placed in employ- ment	Applicants on live register at the end of the year
1956	7,930	1,284	1,082	2,182
1957	6,162	1,093	772	2,320
1958	8,131	1,963	1,492	2,579
1959	9,880	2,089	1,511	3,391
1960	9,009	2,173	1,623	2,479
1961	11,047	2,146	1,729	3,631
1962	15,877	3,840	2,981	5,891
1963	16,438	4,476	2,988	5,351
1964	15,393	4,113	2,668	5,312
1965	15,901	4,466	2,497	5,603



TABLE XXXII—*Panchayats, Villages and Population in Blocks*

Block	Number of <i>pancha- yats</i>	Number of villages	Popula- tion
<b>Stage I</b>			
Salhawas	.. 68	75	70,344
Beri	.. 34	33	69,238
Mundlana	.. 31	34	64,133
Kathura	.. 29	30	68,031
<b>Stage II</b>			
Jhajjar	.. 63	73	87,548
Kalanaur	.. 44	47	1,00,664
Bahadurgarh	.. 43	49	88,871
Nahar	.. 68	71	72,035
Maham	.. 21	24	69,033
Kharkhanda	.. 42	42	99,281
<b>Post Stage II</b>			
Ganaur	.. 64	79	91,850
Rai	.. 68	81	85,246
Sonepat	.. 64	72	87,653
Rohtak	.. 40	42	1,86,494
Gohana	.. 34	34	65,660

TABLE XXXIII—Cognizable Crime Cases

Year	Reported cases	True cases
1942	1,390	1,139
1943	1,536	1,157
1944	1,753	1,405
1945	1,819	1,578
1946	1,883	1,430
1947	2,241	1,491
1948	3,022	2,600
1949	5,565	4,848
1950	3,670	3,974
1951	2,854	2,921
1952	2,921	2,704
1953	2,358	2,156
1954	1,651	1,698
1955	1,906	1,993
1956	1,461	1,304
1957	1,331	1,258
1958	1,679	1,409
1959	1,821	1,611
1960	2,021	1,682
1961	2,097	1,858
1962	2,215	2,204
1963	2,824	2,420
1964	3,215	2,684
1965	3,351	2,538
1966	3,341	3,198
1967	3,114	3,318



TABLE XXXIV—Incidence of Crime

Crime	1942	1950	1960	1961	1965	1967
<b>Rioting</b>						
Number reported ..	16+8	55+28	25+18	8	32	20
Number convicted ..	5	17	8	2	1	6
Number acquitted ..	9	31	14	1	3	11
<b>Murder</b>						
Number reported ..	31+23	42+32	24+18	20	25	24
Number convicted ..	12	13	7	8	—	9
Number acquitted ..	15	14	18	6	7	16
<b>Dacoity</b>						
Number reported ..	10+11	4+4	—	—	—	—
Number convicted ..	1	—	—	—	—	—
Number acquitted ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Robbery</b>						
Number reported ..	64+22	67+36	3+5	—	2	3
Number convicted ..	14	27	2	—	—	—
Number acquitted ..	4	7	—	—	—	—
<b>Burglary</b>						
Number reported ..	338+76	378+153	171+24	147	204	250
Number convicted ..	66	106	56	43	18	70
Number acquitted ..	9	24	3	4	4	7
<b>Ordinary Theft</b>						
Number reported ..	210+27	320+154	181+35	188	224	254
Number convicted ..	53	145	58	78	33	63
Number acquitted ..	11	31	10	10	5	31
<b>Cattle Theft</b>						
Number reported ..	31+11	83+44	36+9	30	41	46
Number convicted ..	13	31	8	15	4	—
Number acquitted ..	4	11	2	3	—	7
<b>Traffic in Women</b>						
Number reported ..	10+4	12+10	10+11	11	14½	—

TABLE XXXIV—(Concl'd.)

Crime	1942	1950	1960	1961	1965	1967
Number convicted ..	2	6	5	1	2	—
Number acquitted ..	1	2	10	4	4	—
<b>Sex Crimes</b>						
Number reported ..	10	7+2	9+2	2	5	12
Number convicted ..	5	2	7	—	—	1
Number acquitted ..	—	1	1	1	2	1
<b>Smuggling</b>						
Number reported ..	154+1	683+163	52+12	19	111	296+122
Number convicted ..	70	383	46	17	23	211
Number acquitted ..	9	81	6	1	2	75

Note.— Plus figures denote pending cases of the previous year.



TABLE XXXV—Murder Cases

Year	Cases reported	Cases dealt with	Cases admitted	Cases tried	Cases convicted
1	2	3	4	5	6
1938	35	49	35	21	9
1939	49	59	39	21	5
1940	56	73	52	22	12
1941	39	55	28	9	2
1942	31	54	38	27	12
1943	25	36	26	11	7
1944	32	42	26	6	—
1945	28	43	31	17	9
1946	66	75	37	22	3
1947	129	166	62	45	16
1948	66	167	127	37	16
1949	53	90	56	41	21
1950	42	74	52	27	13
1951	55	73	41	27	12
1952	28	58	41	28	18
1953	39	55	34	26	9
1954	30	48	31	24	10
1955	27	42	32	22	12
1956	29	39	27	22	14
1957	27	37	22	20	14
1958	38	51	29	24	11
1959	32	52	32	25	14
1960	24	42	29	25	7
1961	20	33	33	21	11

TABLE XXXV—(Concl'd.)

Year		Cases reported	Cases dealt with	Cases admitted	Cases tried	Cases convicted
1		2	3	4	5	6
1962	..	21	33	26	28	10
1963	..	17	25	12	11	6
1964	..	13	26	17	20	3
1965	..	25	34	16	11	3
1966	..	20	38	38	16	5
1967	..	24	45	44	25	9



TABLE XXXVI—Income and Expenditure of Municipal Committees

	1963-64		1964-65		1965-66		1966-67	
	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
Rohtak	13,37,912	14,57,789	16,02,931	13,36,296	14,66,119	16,39,694	18,12,112	20,15,020
Sansarpur	4,69,991	4,84,895	5,02,333	4,97,245	5,18,830	5,46,962	5,55,437	5,40,509
Jhajjar	2,27,427	3,07,146	2,37,776	2,29,910	2,16,277	2,13,440	2,61,543	2,68,535
Beri	77,333	69,103	1,55,684	1,63,912	1,44,552	1,27,194	1,56,776	1,66,220
Bahadurgarh	3,33,787	3,18,644	4,50,378	4,59,335	3,13,822	3,12,793	2,18,249	2,19,051
Gohana	1,69,581	1,79,660	2,06,237	2,16,786	2,93,199	2,96,613	2,18,270	2,18,999
Maham	71,417	71,729	80,376	74,669	2,01,602	2,12,324	1,33,602	1,36,800

TABLE XXXVII—Income of Panchayats

Year	Grants from Government	Grants from Local and other bodies	Land Revenue grant	House Tax	Profession Tax	Other Taxes	Money received from Stantia lands	Voluntary contributions	Other sources and Miscellaneous	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1964-65	5,79,070	2,86,532	1,24,801	93,379	—	766	10,36,497	2,61,690	4,35,668	26,18,103
1965-66	3,34,339	1,71,907	40,867	1,70,367	—	967	12,72,907	4,62,660	5,29,931	29,83,945
1966-67	2,62,785	2,14,858	67,520	1,11,583	35	9,200	12,43,419	2,99,340	4,71,431	27,70,171



TABLE XXXVIII—Judicial Work done by Panchayats

Particulars	Year									
	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66
Civil and Revenue Cases										
Cases pending in the beginning of year	276	273	225	218	167	160	268	284	239	207
Cases instituted during the year	1,094	662	713	603	521	960	836	468	541	390
Cases decided	1,074	675	639	621	503	848	809	505	535	389
Cases dismissed	240	104	86	92	93	145	120	84	116	85
Criminal Cases										
Cases pending in the beginning of year	117	102	135	104	59	85	118	91	82	45
Cases instituted during the year	900	553	488	265	401	683	580	300	311	232
Cases decided	915	504	464	215	357	640	593	322	352	216
Cases dismissed	139	72	67	35	51	93	121	59	45	50

TABLE XXXIX—Public Utility Work done by Panchayats

Particulars	Year										
	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	
Wells constructed	100	65	65	41	49	45	53	72	65	102	
Buildings constructed for hospitals and dispensaries	1	2	2	2	5	—	2	—	1	—	
Buildings constructed for veterinary dispensaries and first-aid posts	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	
Maternity centres opened	1	—	—	6	—	—	—	2	—	—	
Waste land opened (acres)	2,733	—	462	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Lands cleared from harmful weeds(acres)	935	—	36,149	27,493	7,500	6,400	8,790	1,02,345	27,965	26,754	



TABLE XI.—Libraries

Serial No.	Name
1.	Jain Library, Rohtak
2.	Tagore Library, Rohtak
3.	Janta Sudhar Library, Rohtak
4.	Gandhi Library, Rohtak
5.	Zila Parishad Library, Rohtak
6.	Public Library, Kharak Kalan
7.	Panchayat Library, Bahu
8.	Panchayat Library, Akehri Madanpur
9.	Panchayat Library, Dighal
10.	Randhawa Panchayat Library, Dulehra
11.	Randhawa Panchayat Library, Karauntha
12.	Randhawa Panchayat Library, Sampla
13.	Randhawa Panchayat Library, Ismaila
14.	Randhawa Panchayat Library, Bahu Akbarpur
15.	Panchayat Library, Khewara
16.	Panchayat Library, Sundana
17.	Samaj Kalyan Library, Gohana
18.	Public Library, Gurukul Bhainswal
19.	Municipal Library, Rohtak
20.	Municipal Library, Beri
21.	Municipal Library, Jhajjar
22.	Municipal Library, Gohana
23.	Municipal Library, Sonapat
24.	Municipal Library Bahadurgarh

TABLE XLI—Allopathic Hospitals and Dispensaries

Name of the institution	Doctors	Beds
<b>Government Hospitals</b>		
1. Medical College Hospital, Rohtak ..	30	650
2. Civil Hospital, Rohtak ..	3	74
3. Civil Hospital for Women, Rohtak ..	1	11
4. Police and Jail Hospital, Rohtak ..	1	16
5. Infirmary Hospital, Rohtak ..	—	10
6. Civil Hospital, Sonapat ..	2	48
7. Civil Hospital, Beri ..	1	40
8. Civil Hospital for Women, Beri ..	—	8
9. Kamla Nehru (Municipal) Hospital, Bahadurgarh ..	1	36
<b>Private Hospitals</b>		
10. T. B. Clinic, Rohtak ..	1	6
11. Shri Yogiraj Mastnath Ayurvedic Free Hospital, Asthal Bohar ..	2	200
<b>Dispensaries (Government)</b>		
1. School Health Clinic, Rohtak ..	2	—
2. Civil Dispensary, Bhalaut ..	1	2
3. Civil Dispensary, Bhajjar ..	1	10
4. Civil Dispensary, Dujana ..	1	8
<b>Dispensaries (Municipal)</b>		
5. Mud Hut Colony Dispensary, Gandhi Nagar, Rohtak ..	1	36
6. Civil Dispensary, Kalanmur ..	1	4
7. Civil Dispensary, Juan ..	1	4
8. Civil Dispensary, Kosli ..	1	4
9. Civil Dispensary, Butam ..	1	4
10. Civil Dispensary, Maham ..	1	8
<b>Dispensary (Canal)</b>		
11. Bainsi ..	—	—
<b>Dispensaries (E.S.I.)</b>		
12. Rohtak ..	1	—
13. Sonapat ..	3	—
14. Bahadurgarh ..	1	—



TABLE XLI—(Contd.)

Name of the institution	Doctors	Beds
<b>Dispensaries (provincialised Rural)</b>		
15. Farmana	1	4
16. Sanghi	1	4
17. Jakhauli	1	4
18. Mattan Hail	1	2
19. Machhrauli	—	4
20. Khorra	—	—
<b>Dispensaries (Subsidized)</b>		
21. Nigana	—	—
22. Kelanga	1	—
23. Suodana	1	—
24. Atail	1	—
25. Murthal	1	—
26. Baprauda	1	—
<b>Primary Health Units (Government)</b>		
1. Kharkhauda	1	16
2. Dighai	1	12
3. Mundiana	1	8
<b>Primary Health Centres (Government)</b>		
1. Kiloi	1	8
2. Sampla	1	8
3. Kahnaur	1	4
4. Ganaur	1	16
5. Halalpur	1	—
6. Nahar	1	4
7. Badli	1	8
8. Dhakla	1	8
9. Chhara	1	—
10. Gohana	1	14
11. Kathuta	1	12
12. Madina	1	6

TABLE XLI—(Contd.)

Name of the institution	Doctors	Beds
<b>Maternity and Child Welfare Centres (Government)</b>		
1. Kalanaur	—	—
2. Kharak Kalan	—	—
3. Bahadurgarh	—	—
4. Jhajjar	—	—
5. Maham	—	—
<b>Maternity and Child Welfare Centres (Municipal)</b>		
6. Model Town, Rohtak	—	—
7. Quila Mohalla, Rohtak	—	—
8. Sonapat	—	—
<b>Family Planning Clinics (Government)</b>		
1. Rohtak	1	—
2. Ganaur	—	—
3. Madina	—	—
<b>Family Planning Clinics (Red Cross)</b>		
4. Jhajjar	—	—
5. Bahadurgarh	—	—
6. Kharak Kalan	—	—
7. Kalanaur	—	—
8. Sampla	—	—
9. Gohana	—	—
10. Kharkhanda	—	—
11. Badli	—	—
<b>Government /Municipal Ayurvedic Dispensaries</b>		
1. Bahu Akbarpur	1	—
2. Hussangarh	1	—
3. Pakasma	1	—
4. Mandothi	1	—
5. Nilothi	1	—
6. Khubru	1	—
7. Mandaura	1	—



TABLE XLI—(Concid.)

Name of the Institution	Doctors	Beds
8. Silani	1	—
9. Bahu Jholri	1	—
10. Munimpur	1	—
11. Barua	1	—
12. Salhawas	1	—
13. Dulhera	1	—
14. Dubaldhan	1	—
15. Khungai	1	—
16. Jagli	1	—
17. Farniana	1	—
18. Nindana	1	—
19. Khanpur Kalan	1	—
20. Bhainawal Kalan	1	—
21. Baroda	1	—
22. Gohana	1	—

TABLE XLII—Incidence of Smallpox and the Preventive Measures Taken

Year	Number of cases	Number of deaths	Number of localities infected	Primary vaccination done (number)	Re-vaccination done (number)
1950	392	58	68	40,153	1,13,317
1951	110	29	..	47,347	54,764
1952	169	58	22	49,187	67,416
1953	236	57	34	47,918	97,401
1954	172	24	..	52,690	1,05,220
1955	264	54	..	48,580	1,95,876
1956	118	12	..	62,594	1,27,159
1957	103	8	12	63,162	1,16,994
1958	250	20	15	55,450	1,89,577
1959	103	14	13	59,998	1,29,453
1960	235	11	21	53,518	1,47,221
1961	415	24	34	58,021	1,87,810
1962	358	36	13	63,308	6,06,546
1963	78	28	10	75,732	6,87,680
1964	71	11	2	49,921	89,385
1965	80	3	2	63,901	59,671
1966	311	9	20	73,407	99,940



TABLE XLIII—Mortality due to different Diseases, Fevers, etc.

Year	Measles	Cholera	Plague	Smallpox	Fevers	Malaria	Dysentery and Diarrhoea	Respiratory diseases	Injuries	All other diseases/ causes
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1950	12	46	—	58	19,971	65	50	555	220	868
1951	3	1	—	29	13,649	6	58	733	272	1,290
1952	30	3	—	38	19,561	31	153	911	405	864
1953	50	—	—	57	20,048	33	149	756	375	790
1954	3	—	—	24	13,910	17	126	822	382	866
1955	19	—	—	54	14,366	38	183	1,079	341	1,078
1956	8	—	—	12	15,289	53	486	1,200	257	2,177
1957	8	—	—	8	13,916	17	337	1,244	141	2,313
1958	296	4	—	20	15,356	25	381	1,234	119	2,623
1959	47	—	—	14	11,243	6	326	982	255	1,782
1960	19	24	—	11	16,271	9	268	881	170	1,069
1961	27	—	—	24	13,476	9	136	826	208	1,139
1962	13	—	—	36	14,288	9	104	789	135	1,142
1963	8	—	—	28	13,203	1	135	794	143	1,106
1964	—	—	—	11	11,798	3	246	1,067	225	1,317
1965	15	1	—	3	11,002	—	200	601	178	1,591
1966	—	—	—	9	11,179	—	190	352	193	2,295

TABLE XLIV—Prevention of Adulteration in Food-stuffs

	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Total number of samples seized ..	637	797	662	695	746	901	593	40
Samples sent to Public Analyst ..	637	797	662	695	746	901	593	40
Samples found adulterated ..	127	130	149	142	154	234	90	18
Prosecutions launched ..	104	150	146	140	151	208	65	7
Fine realised (rupees) ..	8,269	10,866	14,095	9,851	15,390	17,342	11,055	500
Number of persons sent to jail ..	—	9	87	39	20	9	14	2



TABLE XLV—Important Labour Laws

Subject matter	Name of Act	Whether Central or State Act	Main provisions
Working conditions, industrial safety, hygiene and welfare inside the place of work	(1) The Factories Act, 1948	Central Act	Elaborate provisions have been made in the Act regarding the conditions of work inside the factories including hours of work, employment of young persons, leave with wages in occupational diseases, safeguard for health, promotion of safety and welfare of workers and special provision for young persons and women. Welfare measures like first-aid appliances, canteens, creches, cool drinking-water, etc., near the places of work have also been provided under the Act.
	(2) The Employment of Children Act, 1938	Ditto	The Act prohibits employment of children below the age of 15 years in any occupation connected with the transport of passengers, goods or mail by railways or connected with a port authority within the limits of any port. It also prohibits employment of children in the workshops connected with <i>bidi</i> -making, carpet-weaving, cement manufacture (including bagging of cement), cloth printing, dyeing and weaving, manufacture of matches, explosives and fire-works, mica cutting and splitting, shellac manufacture, soap manufacture, tanning and wool cleaning.

TABLE XLV—(Contd.)

Subject matter	Name of Act	Whether Central or State Act	Main provisions
	(3) The Punjab Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958	State Act	The Act regulates conditions of work and terms of employment of workers engaged in shops and commercial establishments and in those Industrial establishments which are not covered under the Factories Act, 1948. It covers hours of work, holidays, leave, wages, employment of children and their working hours, closing and opening hours, health, safety, maternity benefits and welfare.
Wages	(1) The Payment of Wages Act, 1936	Central Act	The Act regulates timely payment of wages without any unauthorised deductions.
	(2) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948	Ditto	The Act provides for fixation of minimum wages, working hours, weekly rest, etc.
Industrial relations	(1) The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947	Ditto	The Act provides for settlement of Industrial disputes, lay-off payment and payments at the time of retrenchment. As a result of an amendment (in 1965) in Section 2-A of the Act, any individual can raise a dispute relating to his dismissal.
	(2) The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946	Ditto	The Act requires employers to make standing orders defining terms of employment of workers on specified matters and to get them certified by the Certifying Officer.



TABLE XLV—(Contd.)

Subject matter	Name of Act	Whether Central or State Act	Main provisions
Trade unions	The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926	Central Act	The Act makes provisions for the registration of trade unions and describes the rights, privileges, obligations and liabilities of registered trade unions.
Social security	(1) The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923	Ditto	The Act provides for payment of compensation to workmen in the case of injury caused by an accident arising out of and in the course of employment. It also provides for payment of compensation for certain occupational diseases.
	(2) The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948	Ditto	The Act provides for five types of benefits to the employees, viz. sickness benefit, maternity benefit, disablement benefit, dependents benefit and medical benefit.
	(3) The Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952	Ditto	The Act seeks to make a provision for the future of industry worker after he retires or is retrenched or for his dependents in case of his early death.
	(4) The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961	Ditto	The Act provides for payment of cash benefit to women workers for specified periods before and after child birth and for other incidental matters.
	(5) The Punjab Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1965	State Act	All unpaid accumulations of workers have to be paid to Labour Welfare Board, constituted for the purpose by the State Government, which shall keep a separate account to be utilised by it for defraying the cost of carrying out measures for promoting the welfare of the labour and their dependents.

TABLE XLV—(Concl'd.)

Subject matter	Name of Act	Whether Central or State Act	Main provisions
Housing	The Punjab Industrial Housing Act, 1956	Central Act	The Act provides for the administration, allotment, realisation of rent, etc., in connection with quarters constructed under the subsidized Industrial Housing Scheme.
Bonus	The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965	Ditto	Every establishment whether running in profit or loss is required to pay bonus @ 4 per cent or Rs. 40 whichever is greater.
Leave	The Punjab Industrial Establishments (National and Festival Holidays and Casual and Sick Leave) Act, 1965	State Act	Every establishment has to allow to its employees, the following :—  National Holidays 3 (i.e. 26th January, 15th August and 2nd October)  Festival Holidays 4  Casual Leaves 7  Sick Leaves 14



TABLE XLVI—Strikes by the Workers during 1967 and 1968

Serial No.	Name of the factory	Strike duration	Number of workers involved in the strike	Number of man-days lost during the strike
1.	Messrs Pulling and Lifting Machines (Private) Limited, Bahadurgarh	11th January, 1967 to 21st January, 1967	18	180
2.	Messrs Bharat Steel Tubes Limited, Ganaur	25th August, 1967 to 29th August, 1967	692	2,076
3.	Messrs Hindusthan Dowidat Tools Limited, Jatheri, Sonapat	14th November, 1967 to 1st December, 1967	225	3,600
4.	Messrs Hindusthan Twyford's Limited, Bahadurgarh	8th January, 1968 to 29th February, 1968	427	17,290

TABLE XLVII—Registered Trade Unions

Serial No.	Name
1.	Municipal Employees Union, Rohtak
2.	Mohan Spinning Mills Mazdoor Sabha, Rohtak
3.	Press Workers Union, Rohtak
4.	Engineering Workers Union, Rohtak
5.	South Punjab Electricity Corporation Employees Union, Rohtak
6.	Shree Haryana Motor Transport Workers Union, Rohtak
7.	Lahore Pindi Transport Workers Union, Rohtak
8.	Rohtak Delhi Transport Mazdoor Sangh, Rohtak
9.	Haryana Gandharv Union, Rohtak
10.	Vishkarma Carpenters Workers Union, Rohtak
11.	Ara Machine Workers Union, Rohtak
12.	Municipal Employees Sweepers Union, Rohtak
13.	Punjab National Bank Employees Union, Rohtak
14.	Haryana State Electricity Board Employees Union, Rohtak
15.	Haryana Roadways Workers Union, Rohtak
16.	Haryana Co-operative Sugar Mills Workers Union, Rohtak
17.	Mohan Spinning Mills Mazdoor Sangh, Rohtak
18.	Aggarwal Glass Workers Union, Sonapat
19.	Atlas Cycle Workers Union, Sonapat
20.	Atlas Mazdoor Sangh, Sonapat
21.	Household and General Mills Workers Union, Sonapat
22.	General Industrial Workers Union, Sonapat
23.	General Labour Union, Sonapat



TABLE XLVII—(Concl'd.)

Serial No.	Name
24.	Atlas Mazdoor Union, Sonapat
25.	Hindusthan Dowlat Mazdoor Union, Village Jatheri, Sonapat
26.	Cycle Repair Workers Union, Sonapat
27.	H.D.T. Karamchari Union, Village Jatheri, Sonapat
28.	Rickshaw Pullers Union, Sonapat
29.	The Barbers Union, Sonapat
30.	The Rubber Workers Union, Sonapat
31.	D.A.P.P. Mazdoor Union, Sonapat
32.	Loh Udyog Karamchari Sangh, Bahadurgarh
33.	Bahadurgarh Public Carrier Union, Bahadurgarh
34.	Hindusthan Twyford's Workers Union, Bahadurgarh
35.	Bahadurgarh Mazdoor Sabha, Bahadurgarh
36.	H.N.O. Mazdoor Union, Bahadurgarh
37.	Municipal Employees and Sweeper Union, Maham
38.	Municipal Employees Union, Gohana
39.	Sweepers Union, Gohana
40.	Haryana State Municipal Employees Federation, Gohana
41.	B.S.T. Mazdoor Sangh, Ganaur
42.	B.S. Karamchari Sangh, Ganaur

TABLE XLVIII—Prohibition Offences

Kind of Offences	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Working stills for illicit distillation of liquor ..	5	2	3	6	15	8	18	17	24	13	9	10	12	18	24
Other Prohibition cases instituted under Excise Act ..	162	139	99	109	143	116	130	157	214	88	123	166	300	220	215
Total number of cases instituted under Excise, Opium and Dangerous Drug Act ..	219	248	212	234	287	222	251	316	474	455	689	854	1,051	1,131	1,668



**TABLE XLIX—Constituencies and the Number of Votes polled for Election to Lok Sabha in Rohtak District during the First General Elections, 1952**

Name of constituency	Extent of constituency	Number of seats	Number of electors	Total number of electors who voted	Percentage of col 5 to col. 4
1	2	3	4	5	6
Rohtak	Gohana tahsil and Rohtak tahsil (excluding Sampla thana) and Ganaur thana, Sonapat city and Sonapat Sadar thanas (excluding Rohat part zail) and Kheora part zail of Rai thana of Sonapat tahsil of Rohtak district; and Narnauld thana and parts of Sorkhi, Kapru and Sisai zails of Hansi thana of Hamir tahsil of Hissar district	1	1,63,346	2,53,188	69.64
Jhajjar-Rewari	Jhajjar tahsil, Sampla thana of Rohtak tahsil, Rai thana (excluding Kheora part zail) and Rohat part zail of Sonapat Sadar thana of Sonapat tahsil of Rohtak district; and Rewari tahsil (excluding Pataudi pars-thana and Micpur part zail of Jatusana thana) of Gurgaon district	1	1,82,413	2,46,224	64.36

**TABLE L—Constituencies and the Number of Votes polled for Election to Vidhan Sabha in Rohtak District during the First General Elections, 1952**

Name of constituency	Extent of constituency	Number of seats	Total number of electors	Number of electors who voted	Percentage of col. 5 to col. 4
1	2	3	4	5	6
Rai	Rohat part zail of Sonapat Sadar thana and Rai thana (excluding Kheora part zail) of Sonapat tahsil and Rohna zail of Sampla thana of Rohtak tahsil	1	47,634	35,794	75.12
Sonapat	Kheora part zail of Rai thana and Sonapat City and Sonapat Sadar (excluding Rohat part zail) thanas of Sonapat tahsil	1	46,968	32,560	69.32
Gonaur	Gonaur thana of Sonapat tahsil and Khanpur Kalan zail of Gohana thana of Gohana tahsil	1	54,612	42,693	78.15
Gohana	Gohana tahsil excluding Khanpur Kalan zail of Gohana thana	2	1,06,662	1,33,394	62.53
Kalanaur	Kalanaur thana and Rohtak thana (excluding Bohar zail including Rohtak Town and Camp) of Rohtak tahsil	1	54,491	36,083	66.22
Jhajjar	Salhawas, Nahar, Dujana and Jhajjar thanas and Beri thana (excluding Dighai zail) of Jhajjar tahsil	2	1,10,549	1,24,200	56.18
Bahadurgarh	Bahadurgarh thana, Dighai zail of Beri thana and Bhapraudah (part) zail of Sampla thana of Jhajjar tahsil	1	58,698	41,686	71.01
Sampla	Sampla thana (excluding Rohna zail) of Rohtak tahsil	1	45,902	35,088	76.46
Rohtak City	Bohar zail (including Rohtak Town and Camp) of Rohtak thana of Rohtak tahsil	1	47,204	29,754	63.05



**TABLE LI—Constituencies and the Number of Valid Votes polled for Election to Lok Sabha in Rohtak District during the Second General Elections, 1957**

Name of constituency	Extent of constituency	Total number of seats	Seats reserved for Scheduled Castes	Total number of electors	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage of col. 6 to col. 5
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rohtak	Rohtak district (excluding Jhajjar tahsil, Rai thana in Sonapat tahsil and Sampla part-thana in Rohtak tahsil); and Safidon and Julana <i>kanungo</i> circles in Jind tahsil of Sangrur district	1	—	3,94,077	2,73,698	69.4
Jhajjar	Jhajjar tahsil, Rai thana in Sonapat tahsil, and Sampla part-thana in Rohtak tahsil, of Rohtak district; and Rewari tahsil (excluding Pataudi part-thana) of Gurgaon district	1	—	4,22,351	2,70,637	64.0

TABLE LII—Constituencies of Rohtak District for Election to Vidhan Sabha, the Number of Valid Votes polled, etc., during the Second General Elections, 1957

Serial no.	Name of constituency	Extent of constituency	Total number of seats	Seats reserved for Scheduled Castes	Number of electors	Total number of votes	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage of col. 8 to col. 7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Ganaur ..	Ganaur thana in Sonapat tahsil and Khanpur Kalan zail in Gohana thana in Gohana tahsil	1	—	59,551	59,551	45,560	76.50
2.	Sonepat ..	Sonepat City and Sonapat Sadar thanas in Sonapat tahsil	1	—	50,304	50,304	32,349	64.11
3.	Gohana ..	Gohana tahsil (excluding Ahulana zail in Baroda thana and Khanpur Kalan zail in Gohana thana)	2	1	1,07,030	2,14,060	1,41,609	66.15
4.	Kalanaur ..	Kalanaur thana, and Bahu Akbarpur and Sangli zails in Rohtak Sadar thana in Rohtak tahsil and Ahulana zail in Baroda thana in Gohana tahsil	1	—	58,335	58,335	40,577	69.56
5.	Rohtak ..	Rohtak City thana, and Bohar and Kilot zails in Rohtak Sadar thana, in Rohtak tahsil	1	—	53,934	53,934	38,302	71.02
6.	Sampla ..	Sampla thana in Jhajjar and Rohtak tahsils (excluding Rohna zail)	1	—	54,270	54,270	39,378	72.56
7.	Rai ..	Rai thana in Sonapat tahsil ; and Rohna zail in Sampla part-thana in Rohtak tahsil	1	—	53,296	53,296	39,536	74.18
8.	Bahadurgarh	Bahadurgarh thana, and Digbal zail in Beri thana, in Jhajjar tahsil	1	—	63,299	63,299	42,155	66.60
9.	Jhajjar ..	Jhajjar and Sathawas thanas and Beri thana (excluding Digbal zail) in Jhajjar tahsil	2	1	1,22,821	2,45,642	1,45,861	59.44



TABLE LIII—Constituencies and the Number of Valid Votes polled  
in Rohtak District for Election to Lok Sabha during the  
Third General Elections, 1962

Name of constituency	Extent in terms of Assembly constituencies	Total number of seats	Total number of electors	Number and percentage of electors who voted		Total number of candidates	Total number of valid votes polled		
				Number	percentage				
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rohtak ..	Safidon Gunaor Sonapat Rohtak Gohana Maham Kalansur	1	4,77,391	3,48,401	70.71	4	3,37,593		
Jhajjar ..	Rai Bahadurgarh Sampla Jhajjar Sohnawa Rewari Jatusana	1	5,05,869	3,60,204	71.20	9	3,47,926		

TABLE LIV—Constituencies of Rohtak District for Election to Vidhan Sabha, the number of Valid Votes polled, etc., during the Third General Elections, 1962

Name of constituency (with extent)	Total number of electors	Number and percentage of electors who voted		Total number of contest- ing candi- dates	Party affiliation	Number of valid votes polled by each candi- date	Total number of valid votes polled in the consti- tuency
		Number	Per- centage				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Gadaur (Gadaur thana in Sonapat tahsil; and Khanpur Kalan zail in Gohana thana in Gohana tahsil)	71,803	50,632	70.52	5	Jan Sangh Independent Congress Independent Independent	4,225 27,320 13,688 1,079 1,746	48,058
Sonepat (Sonepat City and Sonepat Sadar thanas in Sonepat tahsil)	63,133	44,325	70.21	6	Independent Independent Jan Sangh Independent Independent Congress	586 960 17,986 3,616 3,353 15,910	42,411
Raj (Raj thana in Sonapat tahsil; and Rohna zail in Sampla pur-thana in Rohtak tahsil)	64,354	46,514	72.28	9	Independent Bharatiya Pragatiheel Bharatiya Lok Samiti Independent Congress Independent Independent Independent	1,018 7,069 7,111 723 17,071 4,208 1,703 5,724 197	44,824



TABLE LIV—(Concl'd.)

Name of constituency (with extent)	Total number of electors	Number and per- centage of electors who voted		Total number of contes- ting candi- dates	Party affiliation	Number of valid votes poll- ed by each candi- date	Total number of valid votes poll- ed in the consti- tuen- cy
		Number	Per- centage				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bahadurgarh (Bahadurgarh thana and Dighai zail in Beri thana, in Jhajjar tahsil)	—	77,494	53,765	69.38	4	Haryana Lok Samiti Communist Congress Independent	17,307 3,422 24,043 7,209
Sampla (Sampla thana in Jhajjar and Rohtak tahsils (excluding Rohtak zail)	—	64,686	48,030	74.29	6	Independent Congress Independent Haryana Lok Samiti Haryana Front Independent	238 12,787 4,004 15,626 8,613 5,435
Rohtak (Rohtak City thana and Bahar and Kiloi zails in Rohtak Sadar thana in Rohtak tahsil)	—	66,962	50,618	75.59	5	Haryana Lok Samiti Jan Sangh Independent Congress	11,015 20,027 670 759 16,275
Gohana (Gohana thana (excluding Khanpur Kalan zail) and Barauda thana (excluding Barauda and Ahulana zails) in Gohana tahsil)	—	63,233	46,361	73.32	7	Swatantra Independent Independent Congress Haryana Lok Samiti Independent Jan Sangh	2,952 503 840 10,268 15,029 613 13,553
							43,760
							46,703
							48,746

Maham (Scheduled Castes) (Maham thana and Barauda zail in Barauda thana in Gohana tahsil)	—	63,110	45,363	71.88	4	Independent. Congress Independent Haryana Lok Samiti	1,691 17,423 2,450 21,620	43,184
Kabnaur (Kabnaur thana and Bahu Akbarpur and Sanghi zails in Rohtak Sadar thana, in Rohtak tahsil; and Ahudana zail in Barauda thana in Gohana tahsil)	—	73,866½	54,154	73.31	7	Independent Independent Jan Sangh Haryana Lok Samiti Independent Independent Congress	12,180 4,169 13,944 13,206 781 443 17,401	52,124
Jhajjar (Jhajjar thana (excluding Kolanah zail and Kasni part-zail) and Beri thana (excluding Dighal zail, in Jhajjar tahsil)	—	76,515	59,998	78.41	3	Congress Independent Haryana Lok Samiti	29,404 1,073 28,122	58,599
Sathawas (Scheduled Castes) (Sathawas thana and Kolanah zail and Kasni part-zail in Jhajjar thana in Jhajjar tahsil)	—	73,900	49,618	67.14	5	Independent Congress Jan Sangh Communist Independent	20,471 24,248 871 935 1,272	47,797



**TABLE LV—Constituencies and the Number of Valid Votes polled for Election to Lok Sabha in Rohtak District during the Fourth General Elections, 1967**

Name of constituency	Extent in terms of Assembly constituencies	Total number of seats	Total number of electors	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage of col. 5 to col. 4
1	2	3	4	5	6
Rohtak ..	Jind Juhana Safidon Maham Baroda Gohana Kilei Rohtak Kalanaur	1	4,77,706	3,50,700	73.23
Jhajjar ..	Kailana Sonepat Rai Rohat Hassangarh Beri Salhawas Jhajjar Bahadurgarh	1	5,01,785	3,56,287	71.00

TABLE LVI—Constituencies of Rohtak District for Election to Vidhan Sabha, the Number of Valid Votes polled, etc., during the Fourth General Elections, 1967

Name of constituency	Total number of electors	Number and percentage of electors who voted		Total number of contesting candidates	Party affiliation	Number of valid votes polled by each candidate	Total number of valid votes polled in the constituency
		Number	Percentage				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maham	..	51,840	40.318	77.77	6	18,875 13,361 2,764 2,315 918 347	38,580
					Independent Congress Jan Sangh Independent Samyukta Socialist Republican		
Baroda (Scheduled Castes)	..	55,864	38,273	68.51	11	13,164 11,637 2,168 1,896 1,700 1,637 1,584 1,010 779 632 115	36,322
					Congress Jan Sangh Independent Independent Republican Samyukta Socialist Independent Independent Independent Independent Independent		



TABLE LVI—(Contd.)

Name of constituency	Total number of electors	Number and percentage of electors who voted		Total number of contesting candidates	Party affiliation	Number of valid votes polled by each candidate	Total number of valid votes in the constituency
		Number	Percentage				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Gohans	51,803	39,831	76.89	8	Congress Independent Jan Sangh Independent Independent Independent Independent	119,898 11,801 5,883 379 317 210 109 97	38,785
Kallana	51,395	40,309	78.43	6	Congress Independent Independent Communist Independent	18,847 17,436 1,126 807 463 119	38,798
Sonepat	54,589	40,627	74.42	4	Congress Jan Sangh Communist Republican	17,588 16,777 2,906 1,162	38,433
RaL	44,387	38,659	78.24	4	Congress Independent Independent	20,117 16,206 765 463	37,568

Religion (Scheduled Caste)	..	48,848	52,749	67 04	12	Independent Congress Independent Jan Sangh Communist Independent Independent Samyukta Socialist Communist (MO) Independent	13,0018 111,220 3,896 703 618 299 296 272 253 185 178 148	31,069
Hassanagar	..	50,746	36,961	72 83	6	Congress Independent Independent Samyukta Socialist Communist Independent	11,167 9,058 8,041 5,123 1,547 627	38,563
Kilol	..	49,644	40,246	81 07	6	Independent Congress Jan Sangh Republicans Independent	21,079 12,406 4,771 633 219 87	38,195
Rohral	..	56,642	43,497	76 79	6	Jan Sangh Congress Independent Samyukta Socialist Independent	23,672 18,558 232 126 78 69	42,735
Kalamur	..	47,982	36,594	76 12	4	Jan Sangh Congress Samyukta Socialist Republican	18,103 9,972 6,379 902	35,356
Basl	..	58,403	44,246	76 62	6	Congress Independent Independent Independent	22,577 8,624 7,369 2,248 1,379 807	43,004



TABLE—LVI—(Concd.)

Name of constituency	Total number of electors	Number and percentage of electors who voted		Total number of contesting candidates	Party affiliation	Number of valid votes polled by each candidate	Total number of valid votes polled in the constituency
		Number	Percentage				
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Saltawas (Scheduled Castes)	64,001	40,061	62.59	10	Congress Independent; Independent; Republican Jan Sangh Independent Independent Independent	14,219 13,278 5,163 1,847 796 678 621 497 479 243	37,821
Jhajjar	62,900	49,534	78.74	7	Independent Independent Congress Independent Independent Independent	15,024 11,279 10,902 9,367 312 290 280	47,454
Bahadurgarh	61,500	44,961	73.09	6	Congress Independent Jan Sangh Samyukta Socialist Independent Independent	24,737 11,726 4,910 1,179 724 315	43,491

TABLE LVII—Local Dailies and Periodicals

Serial no.	Name	Year of establishment	Place of publication	Circulation	Classification
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>WEEKLIES</b>					
<b>Hindi</b>					
1.	Haryana Tilak	1961	Rohtak	500	News and current affairs
2.	Path Pardarshak	1965	Jhajjar	..	Ditto
3.	Pichhra Sansar	1963	Kauli	..	Ditto
4.	Rishi Bharat	1965	Rohtak	413	Religion and Philosophy
<b>Urdu</b>					
5.	Chetawani	1958 1965	Rohtak	..	News and current affairs
6.	Haryana Tilak	1948 1964	Rohtak	1,000	Ditto
7.	Jar Gazette	1916 1964	Rohtak	1,900	Ditto
8.	Paighan	1952	Sonepat	1,100	Ditto
9.	Roshni	1952	Sonepat	..	Ditto
10.	Sheer-E-Haryana	1962	Rohtak	..	Ditto
11.	Tehqiqat	1960	Rohtak	1,800	Ditto
<b>Bilingual</b>					
12.	Bharat Tek (Hindi and Urdu)	1940	Rohtak	1,200	Ditto
<b>PORTNIGHTLIES</b>					
<b>English</b>					
13.	Fact Finder	1965	Rohtak	..	Ditto
<b>Hindi</b>					
14.	Bhola Insan	1959	Rohtak	1,400	Ditto
15.	Karamti Ka Begul	1965	Rohtak	..	Ditto
16.	Preacher	1964	Baland	..	Ditto
<b>Urdu</b>					
17.	Gandhiwad	1952 1963	Rohtak	..	Current affairs
18.	Garib Nirman	1963 1964	Rohtak	..	News and current affairs



TABLE LVII—(Contd.)

Serial no.	Name	Year of establishment	Place of publication	Circulation	Classification
1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Pursharthi Gazette	..	Rohtak	1,075	News and current affairs
	<b>Hindi</b>		<b>MONTHLIES</b>		
20.	Ashok Chakra	..	Sonepat	1,000	Literacy and Cultural
21.	Biopari Samaj	..	Rohtak	..	Commerce and Industry
22.	Din Bandhu	..	Rohtak	..	Social Welfare
23.	Samaj Sandesh	..	Bhainswat Kalan	696	Literary and Cultural
24.	Sudharak	..	Gurukul Jhajjar	1,580	Ditto
25.	Yajna Yog Jyoti	..	Rohtak	1,670	Religion and Philosophy
	<b>Urdu</b>				
26.	Ashok	..	Sonepat	1,000	Current affairs
27.	Biopari Samaj	..	Rohtak	..	Commerce and Industry
28.	Halwai Samaj	..	Rohtak	500	Labour
29.	Naya Kadam	..	1962 1963 } Sonepat	200	Literary and Cultural
30.	Sidh Marg	..	1958 1963 } Rohtak	..	Current affairs
	<b>Hindi</b>		<b>QUARTERLIES</b>		
31.	National Gazette	..	1963 Sonepat	200	Current affairs
	<b>Bilingual</b>				
32.	Atlas Pariwar (Hindi and Urdu)	..	1953 Sonepat	4,000	House organ
	<b>Multilingual</b>				
33.	Jalaj (Hindi, English and Panjabi)	..	1961 Sonepat	..	School Magazine
	<b>English</b>		<b>BIMONTHLIES, HALF-YEARLIES, ETC.</b>		
34.	Sonepat Productivity Council Newsletter (Bi-monthly)	..	1962 Sonepat	350	House organ

TABLE LVII—(Concl'd.)

Serial no.	Name	Year of establish- ment	Place of publication	Circula- tion	Classification
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bilingual					
35.	Ayurved Pardip (Hindi and English; half-yearly)	1961 1965	} Asthal Bohar	..	College Magazine
Multilingual					
36.	Anant Vani (English, Hindi, Sanskrit and Panjabi; Half-yearly)	1963	Rohtak	..	School Magazine
37.	Educand (English, Hindi and Urdu; Bi-annual)	1958	Rohtak	600	College Magazine
38.	Heroes (English, Hindi, Sanskrit, Panjabi and Urdu; Half-yearly)	1952	Rohtak	..	Ditto
39.	Jyoti (English, Hindi, Panjabi and Urdu; Thrice-a-year)	1949	Rohtak	40	Ditto
40.	Pankaj (English, Hindi, Sanskrit and Panjabi; Bi-annual)	1959	Sonepat	..	Ditto
41.	Rohtas (English, Hindi, Sanskrit and Panjabi; Tri-annual)	1956	Rohtak	..	Ditto
42.	Udgam (English, Hindi and Panjabi; Half- yearly)	1964	Rohtak	1,600	School Magazine
43.	Vandana (English, Hindi, Sanskrit and Panjabi; Bi-annual)	1961	Rohtak	..	College Magazine
44.	Yug Vahak (English, Hindi and Panjabi; Half-yearly)	1964	Jhajjar	375	College Magazine
ANNUALS					
Multilingual					
45.	Gian Kunj (English, Hindi and Panjabi)	1965	Rohtak	1,500	School Magazine
46.	Parijat (English, Hindi and Panjabi)	1965	Rohtak	800	Ditto
47.	Twilight (English, Hindi, Panjabi and Urdu)	1965	Rohtak	500	College Magazine



TABLE LVIII—Dailies and Periodicals published outside the Rohtak District

Name	Language	Periodicity	Place of publication
The Tribune	English	Daily	Ambala Cantt. <sup>1</sup>
The Hindustan Times	Ditto	Ditto	New Delhi
The Statesman	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
The Times of India	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
The Indian Express	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
Patriot	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
Hindustan	Hindi	Ditto	Ditto
Nav Bharat Times	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
Vir Arjan	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
Hindi Milap	Ditto	Ditto	Jullundur
Vir Partap	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
Punjab Kesari	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
Pradeep	Urdu	Ditto	Ditto
Savera	Ditto	Ditto	Delli
Milap	Ditto	Ditto	New Delhi, Jullundur
Partap	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
Tej	Ditto	Ditto	New Delhi
The Illustrated Weekly	English	Weekly	Bombay
Dharma Yug	Hindi	Ditto	Ditto
Blitz	Hindi, Urdu and English	Ditto	Ditto
Hindustan	Hindi	Ditto	Ditto
Panchajanya	Hindi	Ditto	Lucknow

<sup>1</sup> Shifted to Chandigarh in 1969.

TABLE LVIII—(Concl'd.)

Name	Language	Periodicity	Place of publication
Link	English	Weekly	New Delhi
Organiser	Ditto	Ditto	Delhi
Yojna	Hindi and English	Ditto	Ditto
Filmfare	English	Fortnightly	Bombay
Sarita	Hindi	Monthly	New Delhi
Sushma	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
Shama	Urdu	Ditto	Ditto
Biswin Saddi	Ditto	Ditto	Delhi
Reader's Digest	English	Ditto	Bombay





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## GLOSSARY

**Abadi**—Inhabited spot or place  
**Ala Malikiyat**—Superior ownership in the case of land in which the proprietary rights are divided

**Alsi**—Linseed

**Amaltas**—The Indian Laburnum (*Cassia fistula*)

**Bajra**—Bulrush or spiked millet

**Balwadi**—A community centre for children

**Ban**—Thick twine made of mung

**Bangar**—Table land

**Banjar**—A barren or uncultivated land

**Baraat**—A marriage party

**Baruati**—A member of the marriage party

**Barani**—Dependent on rain

**Barohi**—Same as milni

**Barseeni**—A fodder crop

**Basti**—An inhabited place

**Baya**—A weaver-bird, a tailor-bird

**Ber**—Fruit of the jujube, plum (*Zizyphus jujuba*)

**Beri**—Jujube

**Bhajan**—A devotional song

**Bhai-chara**—Brotherhood

**Bhikshu**—A Buddhist monk

**Bigha**—A measure of land, five-eighth of an acre

**Biswansi**—A measure of land, one-twentieth of a biswa

**Biswa**—A measure of land, one-twentieth of a bigha

**Chaddar**—A sheet of cloth

**Chakki**—Stone handmill, or grinding mill run by power

**Chamar**—A caste (of leather-workers and tanners)

**Chandua**—A sheet of cloth or mantle worn by a woman for covering the head and upper half of the body

**Chapati**—Flat unleavened bread

**Chari**—A *kharij* forage crop

**Charkha**—Spinning wheel

**Charra**—A device used for drawing water for irrigation

**Chinkara**—Gazelle

**Chopal**—A village guest house

**Chopar**—A game like back-gammon which is played with three long dices

**Chowkidari**—Engaging a watchman, Institution of Chowkidar

**Chunni**—A piece of dyed cloth used by women as breasts and head cover

**Dai**—Midwife

**Dangal**—A wrestling tournament

**Deila**—A kind of grass

**Desi**—Indigenous

**Dhaba**—Eating house

**Dhak**—*Butea frondosa*

**Dhanak**—Sweeper caste; also cloth weavers and agricultural labourers

**Dhoti**—A long piece of cotton cloth (usually 5½ metres in length) worn round the waist both by men and women though in a different style

**Dhunmia**—A cotton-comber

**Dola**—A closed litter

**Drek**—A tree (*Melia azedarach* linn)

**Dub**—A kind of green grass *Cynodon dactylon*

**Dupatta**—A kind of scarf worn by women to cover breasts and head



- Ekka*—A springless two-wheeled pony cart
- Gatha*—A unit of measure equal to 2.5146 metres
- Ghagri*—A skirt from waist to knee
- Ghani*—Oil crusher
- Gher*—A circuit
- Ghriti*—An earthen pot (used in kitchen) for melting ghee
- Ghurchari*—The ceremony in which the bridegroom, at the time of marriage, goes to the bride's house (to be married) on a mare
- Gora*—A place outside the village where cattle are collected before letting them out for daily outing
- Gram Sabha*—Village Assembly
- Gur*—Unrefined sugar in lumps
- Gurukul*—Oriental institution of learning specialising in Sanskrit and Hindi
- Gwara*—A pulse (*Cyamopsis psoralioides*)
- Hathai*—Same as *chopal*
- Hiran*—A deer
- Hundi*—Bill of exchange
- Idgah*—The place where Moham-medans assemble for prayer on the Id festival
- Jaimala*—The garland which the bride puts around the neck of the bridegroom
- Jal*—A tree (*Salvadora oleoides*)
- Jaman*—A kind of black plum
- Jand*—*Prosopis cineraria*
- Jeth*—The husband's elder brother
- Jethi*—The wife of husband's elder brother
- Jokha*—One who feeds fire at the time of making gur
- Jogi*—A sect of Hindu ascetics
- Johar*—A tank or pond
- Jowar*—Large millet (*Andropogon sorghum*)
- Julaha*—A caste (of weavers)
- Jumper*—A woman's garment like a blouse
- Kachcha*—Clay-built, undeveloped
- Kacheras*—Name of a tribe
- Kaghzi lime*—A kind of lime (with a thin rind)
- Kana*—*Commelina*
- Kanal*—A measure of land, 500 square yards
- Kankar*—Limestone nodules
- Kangna*—The string which is tied round the wrist of the bridegroom at the time of marriage
- Kanpara, Kanphatta*—A disciple of Gorakhnath (who has pierced ears)
- Kans*—*Saccharum Spontaneum*
- Kansi*—Bell-metal
- Kasar*—Wheat meal fried with ghee and mixed with sugar
- Khadar*—Low-lying land near river
- Khadi*—Hand-spun and hand-woven cotton cloth
- Khandsari*—Indigenous white sugar
- Kharif*—Autumn harvest
- Khes*—A thick cotton sheet, also used as a blanket
- Kho Kho*—An indigenous game
- Kikar*—The Babul tree, the *Acacia* tree
- Kumhar*—A caste (of potters)
- Kurta*—A kind of shirt
- Lehnga*—A petticoat, a skirt

- Mahal*—Estate  
*Majholi*—Bullock cart used for riding  
*Malta*—Sweet lime  
*Mandi*—A market place  
*Mandir*—A temple  
*Mash*—A pulse (*phaseolous radiatus*)  
*Mata*—*Sitla Mata*— goddess of smallpox  
*Math*—A monastery  
*Methi*—A fodder crop (*Trigonella foenumgraecum*), a small plant, the leaves of which are used as vegetable, fenugreek  
*Milni*—A custom among Hindus observed during the marriage ceremony when the relatives of the bridegroom and bride embrace each other  
*Moong*—A pulse  
*Moorha*—A stool (made of reeds or cane and cord)  
*Moth*—A pulse  
*Mundan*—The shaving of hair on a child's head for the first time  
*Munj*—A kind of coarse grass used for making ropes, mats, etc. (*Erianthus*)  
*Muthia*—One who feeds the cane-crusher  
*Nadi*—A stream  
*Naqar Khana*—A room for placing the kettledrum  
*Nawabi*—The office of a Nawab  
*Nazar*—An offering, a gift, a present  
*Neem*—*Margosa* tree  
*Neota*—Invitation, treat  
*Niwar*—About 3 inches wide cotton tape used for stringing bedstead  
*Orhni*—A mantlet  
*Pachotra*—A surcharge of 5 per cent, on the revenue paid to village headmen  
*Pakava*—One who stirs the boiling molasses at the time of making gur  
*Palang*—Bedstead  
*Palla*—End of a garment  
*Panchayat*—Village assembly  
*Panchayat Ghar*—Village community hall  
*Panch*—Member of a panchayat  
*Pandit*—Religious teacher, a title of respect to Hindus who are learned in the Brahmanical theology  
*Panghat*—A quay from which people draw water  
*Pata or Prastha*—An ancient administrative unit  
*Patsan*—Daccan hemp (*Hibiscus cannabinus*)  
*Patti*—Section of a village  
*Peapal, pipal*—Sacred tree of Hindus (*Ficus Religiosa*)  
*Peera*—A kind of stool  
*Penja*—See *Dhunnia*  
*Phalsa*—A small fruit (*greweia asiatica*) of the summer season  
*Phera*—A part of the marriage ceremony among Hindus in which the bride and the bridegroom go round the sacred fire  
*Phulkari*—Flowered figured cloth  
*Qamiz*—A shirt  
*Rabi*—Spring harvest



- Rajbaha*—A canal distributary  
*Rassagir*—Cattle-lifter  
*Rath*—A chariot, a carriage  
*Risaldar*—An officer of Indian infantry  
*Rokna*—A ceremony preceding marriage among Hindus whereby the boy is reserved as a bridegroom for the prospective bride  
*Roti*—Same as chapati  
*Sadachar*—Good conduct  
*Sadhu*—Hindu meditant or ascetic  
*Sagai*—Betrothal, an engagement  
*Salwar*—A kind of trousers worn by women  
*Samadh*—Mausoleum  
*Samadhi*—Shrine built on a place where a person is cremated or where ashes of a person are buried  
*San*—A kind of flax, hemp  
*Sanskara*—Rite  
*Santwak*—*Panicum colonum*  
*Sari*—A long piece of cloth (usually 5½ metres) worn by women round the waist passing over the head  
*Sarkar*—The sub-division of a suba, a district in pre-British days  
*Sarpanch*—The headman of a village  
*Sarson*—Indian colza; an oil-seed (*Brassica campestris*)  
*Satsang*—Intercourse with good persons, society of pious persons  
*Satyagrahi*—One who offers passive resistance  
*Sehra*—Bridal chaplet  
*Senji*—A forage crop  
*Shakkar*—Unrefined cane-sugar  
*Shisham*—The Indian rosewood tree (*Dalbergia sisu*)  
*Shradh, Shraddha*—Ceremony for the propitiation of the dead  
*Siri*—A share-holder  
*Sootgola*—Cotton yarn  
*Sufedposhi*—Institution of Sufedposh, a village official  
*Surahi*—A long-necked flask, a gugglet  
*Taccari*—Agricultural loans granted by Government  
*Talukdari*—Superior proprietorship  
*Tandoor*—Oven  
*Taramira*—Oil-seed (*Eruca sativa*)  
*Thana*—Police station, Police circle  
*Thela*—Trolley or wheelbarrow  
*Tikka*—Same as rokna  
*Til*—Sesamum; oil-seed (*Sesumum indicum*)  
*Tira*—Same as taramira  
*Tirphali*—An agricultural implement  
*Toria*—Indian rape; an oil-seed  
*Yoga*—One of the six schools of Hindu philosophy, a union with the universal soul by means of contemplation  
*Zaildar*—An influential man in charge of a zail (a sub-division of a tahsil)

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GAZETTEER OF INDIA

HARYANA

ROHTAK





# Haryana District Gazetteers



## ROHTAK

(MISS) KIRAN PREM, IAS,

State Editor

Assisted by :

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&

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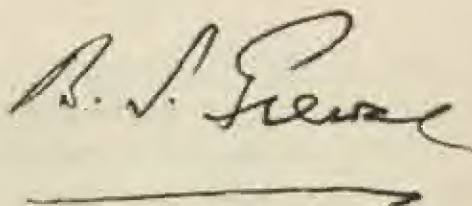
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## FOREWORD

The District Gazetteer is a miniature encyclopaedia for the administrator, and a good guide to a stranger. It describes all important aspects and features of the district: historical, physical, social, economic and cultural. Officials and others desirous of acquainting themselves with the salient features of Rohtak would find a study of the Gazetteer rewarding.

The last edition of the Rohtak District Gazetteer was published in 1910. Since then momentous changes have occurred in all spheres. The entire fabric of life in the district has been improved. The present volume seeks to depict these changes and future trends, where possible. Several persons have helped in its compilation, but it was fortunate that Dr. K. C. Khanna, M.A., Ph.D., (London); F. R. Hist. S., M.R.A.A., was able to revise this volume before its publication.

I am obliged to Shri Bansi Lal, Chief Minister, Haryana and Shrimati Om Prabha Jain, Finance Minister for their kind interest in this publication, and for sparing the time to see the final manuscript.



(B. S. GREWAL),

ICS

Financial Commissioner, Revenue,  
Haryana.

CHANDIGARH

April, 1969.





## PREFACE

The Gazetteer of Rohtak district was first compiled after the census report of Sir Denzil Ibbetson in 1881. It was published in 1883-84, and was based on Mr. Fanshawe's Settlement Report of the district. The last edition of this Gazetteer was published in 1910.

During the intervening period, tremendous changes have occurred following Independence, the partition of the country, and the migration of people between India and Pakistan. This volume, first in the series of revised District Gazetteers of Haryana, reflects the changes that have occurred with the re-settlement of thousands of people from West Punjab in this area.

This gazetteer is different from the last one as it has been re-written, and is on the pattern prescribed by the District Gazetteers Unit of the Government of India. The chapters can be grouped into four categories, historical, social, political and administrative. As the partition of the country had a marked effect on this region, a separate chapter has been devoted to 'Rehabilitation'.

Many difficulties were faced in the execution of this work because no socio-economic survey or settlement operations have been undertaken in Rohtak for a very long time; the Provincial Annual Administration Reports were discontinued; the State Archives and other repositories of reference material were left behind at Lahore consequent upon Partition. Despite these limitations, an attempt has been made to collect all available information up to 1966 and wherever possible to bring it up to date.



I wish to express my thanks to all those scholars, libraries, private institutions and officials who helped me by supplying information on various points. I thank Dr. P. N. Chopra, Editor, District Gazetteers Unit, Ministry of Education for his valuable suggestions; Colonel Y. L. Khular, Director, North Western Circle, Survey of India, for his help in the preparation of maps; Dr. Buddha Prakash, of Kurukshetra University, and Mrs. U. E. Chaudhry, Senior Architect for their assistance; and Dr. K. C. Khanna, who has given his expert help in an unstinted measure. I am grateful for the guidance and advice given by Shri B. S. Grewal, I.C.S., Financial Commissioner, Revenue, Haryana.

Last but not least, the work that has been done by the Editors and their assistants merits commendation. Shri Sudarshan Kumar and Shri B. Raj Bajaj, Editors worked hard. They have been very useful in scrutinizing the preliminary drafts and in collecting necessary material.

The Controller of Printing and Stationery, Haryana, and the Government Press, Chandigarh, deserve my thanks for the speedy printing of this volume.

*Kiran Prem*

(KIRAN PREM),

IAS

State Editor

CHANDIGARH :

April, 1969.

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